



02 May 2018

**Memorandum Order**

No. 13  
Series of 2018

**Subject: Implementing Guidelines for the High Yield Technology Adoption for Hybrid Rice Project (HYTA-HR)**

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**I. PROJECT PURPOSE**

The project aims to help enhance competitiveness of the country in rice production by expanding hybrid rice harvested area to at least 1 million hectares with an average yield of at least 7 metric tons per hectare of dry palay by end of 2022-2023 Dry Season.

**II. PROJECT SCOPE**

**A. Project Duration:**

To start in the Wet Season of 2018 and shall continue until the Dry Season of 2022-2023 thus covering the rice plantings from March 16, 2018 to March 15, 2023.

**B. Project Coverage:**

1. Delineated within the 20 priority hybridization provinces for 2018 and the 32 provinces for 2019 (Refer to Annex: List of Priority Provinces for Rice Hybridization). The National Rice Program Secretariat shall update the priority list annually, based on Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) data. In the non-priority provinces, hybridization zones shall also be delineated for monitoring of "self-financed" farmers and those with input assistance from non-DA entities.
2. Project zones shall consist of generally contiguous lowland rice farms that are irrigated or classified as "favorable" rainfed areas.

**III. PROJECT FEATURES**

1. Only the National Seed Industry Council (NSIC)-registered hybrid rice varieties recommended for the season and location by the National Rice Program, Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) and the Regional Field Offices (RFOs) shall be procured, distributed and utilized in this Project.
2. Implementation shall be with community-based institutional partners, which may include, but not limited to, farmers associations, farmer organizations and rural community-based cooperatives. The RFOs shall set specific guidelines in the selection and engagement of the community-based institutional partners. The individual rice farmers, as recipients, must be registered under the updated field registry.
3. Recommended hybrid rice varieties shall be distributed to the farmer-recipients in bags of 15 to 18 kilograms per hectare. Packaging of smaller bags of 3 kg, 5 kg, and 6 kg can also be made available.
4. The Rice Crop manager (RCM) and/or soil analysis recommendations shall be the basis of NPK fertilizer levels in each farm lot. Soil ameliorants may also be provided as DA grant.

5. Farmer-recipients are required to attend briefings on hybrid rice production to qualify.

#### **IV. PROJECT SCHEMES**

The following schemes may be simultaneously implemented in a region or province or HYTA-HR zone.

##### **1. HYTA-HR Grant, Recovery and Roll Over (GRR) Scheme**

This is the recommended scheme for hybridization zones in the priority provinces. Only the recommended quantity of hybrid seeds shall be provided under this scheme. Other material inputs and assistance may be provided thru complementary interventions. This scheme shall be adopted for on-going hybrid GRR sites and when shifting from inbred to hybrid in inbred GRR sites. This scheme is further recommended when seed reserves are utilized before it losses acceptable viability. This scheme shall likewise be followed when using seeds procured from budget savings.

- a. RFO with Provincial/Municipal Local Government Unit (LGU) shall identify and brief the community based institutional partner.
- b. LGU shall prepare plans and organize farm clusters and sub-clusters (if needed for large clusters) of farmer recipients with the community-based institutional partner. Technical briefings on hybrid rice technologies shall be conducted and recommendations from RCM and/or soil analysis will be generated. Enrolled farm lots will be verified by RFO.
- c. RFO shall procure and grant hybrid seeds of appropriate NSIC-registered varieties, possibly the ones preferred by majority of the targeted farmers. The seeds shall be deployed to the institutional partners thru the LGU.
- d. The institutional partner, thru the assistance of RFO, may secure credit financing programs or grant for other inputs especially fertilizers.
- e. Institutional partners shall loan out the granted seeds to farmer-recipients with written repayment agreement.
- f. Farmer-recipients shall repay the loan to institutional partner upon harvest. Failure to do so shall exclude them from the list of qualified farmer recipient for the succeeding cropping season until the payment has been settled.
- g. At start of second season, institutional partners shall procure hybrid seeds and loan out to the same farmer following the same procedure.
- h. RFO shall assist all participating farmers for crop insurance coverage.
- i. RFO with Municipal LGU and institutional partner should ensure that the farmer recipients are prepared to shift to self-financing or to credit access by the end of the project duration.
- j. The community-based institutional partner shall utilize recovered funds for other intervention after the implementation of GRR.
- k. Succeeding seed subsidy target per year shall be used for expansion of the project area.

##### **2. HYTA-HR Credit and Crop Insurance Assistance (CCIA) Scheme**

This Scheme will be facilitated by Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC) under the Production Loan Easy Access (PLEA) Program.

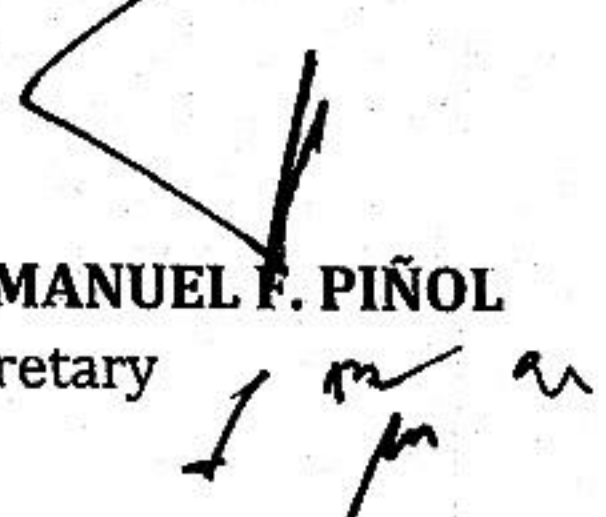
**V. Monitoring and Reporting Scheme**

1. The Municipal Agriculture Office, assisted by the RFO and assigned Local Farmer technicians (LFTs), shall undertake the gathering of necessary data.
2. The National Rice Program Secretariat shall establish information and monitoring system.

**VI. Supplemental Guidelines**

The DA RFOs and DAF-ARMM are authorized to formulate supplemental guidelines to address peculiar situations and ensure achievement of the project objectives. Supplemental guidelines shall require approval of the Rice Program National Coordinator.

All previous issuances including supplemental guidelines of Regional Field Offices inconsistent herewith are superseded by this Memorandum Order and this shall take effect upon approval and remain valid until revoked in writing.

  
**EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL**  
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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