



20 May 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 21

Series of 2020

SUBJECT : AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 14, SERIES OF 2020 RE: INSTITUTIONALIZING THE AGRICULTURE DIALOGUE AND INFORMATION NETWORK GROUPS (ADING) AS THE INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM AT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SECTION 1. PURPOSE. This Administrative Order is hereby issued in order to update Administrative Order No. 14, Series of 2020 with additional and revised provisions.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS TO SELECTED SECTIONS. The following provisions of the Sections identified below are hereby amended to now read as follows:

a. "SECTION 2. INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES.

The integrity management program of the Department of Agriculture shall be called the **Agriculture Dialogue and Information Network Groups (ADING) Program**. The program shall focus on establishing integrity circles the local, provincial, regional, and national levels. ***The ADING Integrity Circles shall be independent from but will coordinate and work closely with policy oriented bodies including the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (PCAF) and other consultative groups in the private sector as well as with oversight agencies and institutions including the Commission on Audit and the integrity program offices of the Ombudsman, among others.*** These shall serve as the Department's dialogue partners in institutionalizing transparency and accountability, leveling up integrity practices, and further developing the responsiveness of the Department's programs and projects to the needs of its publics and the agriculture sector at large.

The main objectives of the ADING Program are:

- (1) To improve and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the DA's various actions and programs in lifting the conditions of farmers, fishers and other participants in the agriculture sector;

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- (2) To enhance the quality and timeliness of delivery of the DA's services to its target beneficiaries;
- (3) To ensure the prevention and avoidance of leakages and wastage in the use of the agencies' resources by engaging its publics in dialogues, monitoring and consultative activities, including active participation in the procurement process;
- (4) To institutionalize the value of honesty and principles of integrity in the everyday processes and actions of the various units and personnel within the Department; and
- (5) To strengthen the relevance of the Department's programs, actions, and strategies to the needs of the producers, consumers, economy and society at large."

b. "SECTION 5. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (PMC).

The ADING program shall be under the supervision of a program management committee, which is hereby created and to be composed of the following:

- Undersecretary for Policy and Planning – Chairperson
- *Undersecretary for Administration and Finance – Co-Chairperson for National ADING Program Evaluations*
- *Undersecretary for Regulations – Vice Chairperson for Monitoring and Regulatory Concerns*
- *Executive Director of PCAF – Coordinator for Policy and Legislative Concerns*
- Assistant Secretary for Policy – Member

The ADING-PMC shall have the following tasks and functions:

- Serve as overseer of the ADING Program and provide the overall direction in program planning and implementation;
- Recommend the necessary guidelines, activities and component programs for approval by the Secretary to ensure effective implementation of the Program;
- Facilitate the provision of training, technical assistance, and information exchange to DA units, program and project implementers, regional offices and attached agencies;
- Ensure the provision of capacity-building interventions in relation to the effective implementation and roll-out of Integrity-related activities in such areas as procurement activities, financial assistance and grants, and implementation of projects;

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- Establish rewards and incentive schemes to promote compliance and good practices that may be linked with existing performance management systems and budget management;
- Ensure resources are allocated to the program, as well as from donations, grants, contributions, sponsorships and/or any form of assistance from government entities, private sector and development partners to carry out its mandate;
- Coordinate with like-minded agencies, groups, institutions and organizations promoting Good Governance, Anti-Corruption, Transparency, and other groups engaged in Integrity-related activities to build constituency in support of ADING's programs and activities; and
- Perform such other functions as may be necessary consistent with the basic functions of the Committee.

A composite team to be formed from the Policy and Planning Group and other relevant offices shall provide secretariat support to the PMC for all monitoring and oversight concerns. For policy formulation and legislative concerns, representatives of PCAF's Operating Units shall provide logistical support and assistance to the National and Regional Secretariat of the ADING Program."

c. "SECTION 6. REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION.

At the regional level, the Regional Planning Officers shall serve as the Regional ADING Coordinator (RAC) in the implementation of the ADING Program and its activities.

The Regional ADING Integrity Circle (IC) shall be an independent consultative body directly linked to the Office of the Secretary through the ADING PMC. The Regional ADING IC shall be composed of at least 5 members including three representatives from organizations/ institutions with regional, or at least provincial scope, coming from the religious sector, youth, academe, and civic organizations. In addition, there shall be two (2) PCAF-accredited farmers and fishers organizations to represent to the agriculture and fisheries sector at the regional, provincial, and municipal levels. At each of these levels, they shall elect their respective chairman and focal persons who shall coordinate with the RAC in the operationalization of their ADING programs and activities.

Specifically, the Regional ADING Coordinators shall assist the PMC in terms of the implementation of the programs and activities of the ADING, including but not limited to:

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- Provisions of technical assistance and information exchange on programs and projects to DA's publics, especially the farmers and fishers groups, civil society, and other participants in ADING activities;
- Capacity - building interventions, including the planning and monitoring activities of partner-stakeholders, in relation to the effective implementation and roll-out of integrity- related activities such as but not limited to procurement, monitoring, and providing inputs in reviews in the evaluation of DA's programs and projects;
- Engaging relevant provincial and municipal stakeholders in the agriculture sector into dialogue, networking, training programs, monitoring/validation activities, and constituency building in support of ADING's programs and activities; and
- Coordinating with like-minded agencies, groups, institutions and organizations promoting Good Governance, anticorruption, transparency, and other groups engaged in a integrity related activities.

The ADING-PMC may directly request for reports and relevant information from the Regional, Provincial, and Municipal ADING ICs through the Regional ADING Coordinators and ADING Focal Persons relative to their functional concerns, discussions, and observations on DA activities, programs, and projects.

For the provincial, city and municipal ADING Groups, the Regional Planning Officers shall serve as the liaison officers to coordinate monitoring and oversight activities and the gathering of information on the concerns of farmer and fishers at their respective community levels. The Regional ADING Coordinators shall also integrate the reports of the ADING ICs at the provincial, city, and municipal levels on a quarterly basis."

d. "SECTION 7. MECHANISMS OF PARTICIPATION.

The PMC shall adopt and implement participatory governance programs designed to engage the Department's relevant publics, including farmers and fisherfolk, civil society, youth groups, agriculture professionals, ***and other relevant stakeholders***. Programs and projects shall be formulated for adoption and implementation under the direction and supervision of the PMC in the following areas: (a) consultative and agenda setting activities, (b) participatory monitoring and validation activities, (c) joint assessment and evaluation activities, (d) participation as observers in the procurement by the Bids and Awards Committee at various levels, and (e) monitoring of prices of agricultural products."

e. "SECTION 9. FUNDING.

Funds that are necessary for the attainment of the objectives of this Administrative Order shall be provided from the budget under the Office of the Secretary, subject to the usual accounting and auditing requirements. ***The DA Regional Field Offices shall set aside the amount of Php 250,000 (two-***

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hundred fifty thousand pesos) respectively for ADING activities at the regional and local levels.

All Regional Field Offices shall include as part of their future budgets the equivalent of ten percent (10%) of their annual banner program monitoring fund allocations for the meetings, consultations, monitoring and feedback activities of the ADING Integrity Circles and other logistical requirements to be identified by the Regional ADING Coordinators.

The ADING-PMC shall submit the necessary program budgets for the implementation of its activities for approval by the Secretary. The ADING Program shall be incorporated as a new line item proposal in the 2021 and future budgets of the Department. Official Development Assistance may be sought for specific actions and/or projects that may gain support from development funding institutions."

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVITY. These amendments shall take effect immediately. All other provisions in Administrative Order No. 14, Series of 2020 inconsistent herewith are hereby superseded.

Done this 26 day of May 2020.


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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