



October 20, 2020

MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

FOR : National Program/Project Directors, Heads of Regional Field Offices, Bureaus, Attached Agencies & selected DA Services/ Division units

SUBJECT : Major Directives and Agreements during the 3rd Quarter Assessment of DA Programs and Projects

This is to reiterate the following directives and agreements during the Assessment of DA Programs and Projects conducted on October 8 and 9, 2020.

1. Major Directives:


- All operating units are directed to enhance obligations and disbursements and aim for 100% utilization rate at the end of the year. Ramp up the utilization of funds by October and November 2020.
- All operating units are advised to review their current NCA levels and immediately make a request for additional cash allocations. Do not wait for the November 15, 2020 deadline;
- Adopt the policy "No parking of fund in stations";
- Expedite the encoding in the RSBSA to facilitate the distribution of cash and financial assistance to non-rice farmers. This should be one of the priority activities of the Regional Field Offices (RFOs); and
- Provide a copy of all letters/emails/communications requiring the endorsement of the Secretary and its status to Usec. Roldan Gorgonio, Usec. Ariel Cayanana and Usec. Rodolfo Vicerra.

2. Other Directives and Agreements:

- Provide details/specifics of lapsed accounts/reverted funds to the Financial Management Service (FMS);
- Follow the guidelines issued for the procurement of seeds and maintenance of seed reserve;
- On the procurement of fertilizers, the operating units may refer to the complete list of registered dealers issued and cascaded by FPA to help fast track the procurement of fertilizers in line with the implementation of the Rice Resiliency Project (RRP);
- Amidst quarantine restrictions, the delivery of DA interventions should not be dependent on LGU approval. Improve coordination and cooperation with concerned LGUs to ensure the unhampered and timely delivery of government assistance;
- RFOs to monitor palay prices regularly especially in areas where prices are critical. Submit report to the Office of the Secretary;
- Operating units to submit to the Office of Usec Gorgonio, details of report with 100% physical accomplishment but with low fund utilization;
- RFOs to provide the Office of Usec Medrano, potential beneficiaries of INSPIRE;

- Exercise the regulatory powers of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) and impose disciplinary sanctions to erring suppliers of critical agri-fishery inputs;
- There is a need to reconcile the physical and financial reports provided by the operating units to Planning and Monitoring Service (PMS) and FMS;
- PMS will spearhead a workshop on the review of DA indicators. Include indicators that will capture milestone accomplishments especially for infrastructure and R&D projects;
- National Fisheries Program/BFAR:
 - Prepare strategic plan as well as capital and sustainability requirements of establishing and maintaining a hatchery and nursery.
- National Livestock Program:
 - Closely monitor and assess the impact of the African Swine Fever on pork inventory and sufficiency; and
 - In consultation with the finance and admin group, look into the possibility of the program supporting the construction, upgrading and maintenance of slaughterhouses through NMIS.
- Halal Program:
 - Revise/update the existing Halal Roadmap and redesign the Halal Program; and
 - Start working with the banner programs by integrating/mainstreaming Halal initiatives into the PPAs of the banner programs.
- National Corn Program:
 - Explore possible export markets for corn.
- National Rice Program:
 - For the budget deliberation, prepare computations on the expected/projected increases in average yield and rice sufficiency.
- RCEF:
 - Provide cash and food assistance to rice farmers using the excess tariff funds under RTL;
 - Map out RCEF intervention areas to ensure that there is no duplication in the reporting of area planted vis-à-vis the Rice Program and RRP program areas; and
 - Submit physical and financial accomplishment report corresponding to the 2019 funds to PMS and FMS.
- RFFA and FSRF:
 - Review and improve internal data sharing policies of the DA relative to the implementation of the amelioration programs.
- National Organic Agriculture Program:
 - Coordinate with ICTS to incorporate a mechanism that will allow the program to generate an inventory of organic farmers from the main registry of farmers and fisherfolk ; and
 - Coordinate with agricultural attaches to identify viable export markets for organic products.
- Agricultural Credit Program/ACPC:
 - Separate report on borrowers and amount of loans for re-flows and current funds.

For strict compliance.


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 Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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