

Memorandum Order

No. $0 \wp$ Series of 2023

SUBJECT

GUIDELINES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CORN PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (CPEP)

I. Rationale

Production of corn in the country is continuously increasing because of the support of farmers and other stakeholders. Despite of increasing production, there is still a gap between supply and requirements of the different corn processors. At present, local yellow corn production is far below the total requirements of feed millers. To fill in the gap, feed millers opted to import yellow corn and feed wheat from other countries.

Despite the increase in production, the local yellow corn-feed sufficiency is only about fiftynine percent (59%) in 2021. Other feed millers are also using cassava in their feed formulation and supplied about 6-7 percent of the requirements. On white corn, there is an increasing demand for food and other industrial uses. Hence, there is a need to improve the local production of yellow and white corn to meet the country's demand.

II. Objective

The project aims:

- 1. To increase the grain yield per hectare of yellow and white corn by 3% annually;
- 2. To increase income of corn farmers; and
- 3. To increase the supply of yellow and white corn for feeds and food, respectively.

III. Scope

The Program shall cover both yellow and white and start on the first cropping of CY 2023 in priority corn production areas. Priority areas include new/idle lands, crop/varietal shifting and with average grain yield lower than 4.20 metric tons and 2.50 metric tons per hectare for yellow and white, respectively.

IV. General Implementing Guidelines

A. Beneficiary Eligibility

The farmer-beneficiary must be registered in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) and with a corn production area of 0.50 hectare or wider, preferably member of an active corn cluster organization, shall be eligible to receive this support.

B. Provision of Support Services

- 1. A package of 18 kg of GM/Hybrid corn seeds or 20 kg of improved OPV corn seeds and 2 bags of inorganic fertilizers (urea and/or complete) shall be provided per hectare of corn area.
- 2. Maximum of one (1) hectare shall be covered per farmer beneficiary with wider production area.

3. DA-RFOs shall determine the amount of seeds and fertilizers equivalent to the area to be planted by the farmer-beneficiary.

V. ROLES OF PARTICIPATING OFFICES/UNITS

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the participating offices/units:

A. DA Field Operations Service (DA-FOS)-National Corn Program

- 1. Spearhead the overall planning and coordination for the implementation of the Project.
- 2. Conduct briefing with DA-RFOs and other agencies/offices involved in the Project implementation.
- 3. Conduct regular operational monitoring and evaluation on the status of implementation.
- 4. Identify, analyze, and provide advice/strategies on the operational concerns of the Project.
- 5. Provide periodic reports to higher management.

B. DA Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs)-Regional Corn Program

- 1. Procure yellow corn GM/hybrid or improved OPV corn seeds (National Seed Industry Council registered) and inorganic fertilizers in accordance with the RA 9184, Government Procurement Act.
- 2. Ensure the OPV and GM/Hybrid corn seeds are stored in sealed containers having the initial moisture content of less than or equal to 12% to guarantee the viability of seeds to be distributed to farmer-beneficiaries.
- 3. Validate and approve the list of qualified beneficiaries submitted by cluster organizations.
- 4. Gather relevant data to assess project performance or activity contribution.
- 5. Provide support in the distribution and technical assistance on the proper utilization of seeds and fertilizers.
- 6. Assist in the market linkage of the project beneficiaries and corn processors or consumers thru the AMAD.
- 7. Prepare regional monthly reports for submission to DA-FOS.
- 8. Coordinate with the Local Government Units (LGUs) for the proper planning, implementation and monitoring of the project.

C. Cluster Organization

- 1. Provide list of cluster members to LGU to be beneficiaries of corn seeds and inorganic fertilizers.
- 2. Consolidate the information/data, and other pertinent documents (e.g. Previous cost of production, Client Satisfaction Feedback (CSF) forms) and regular report on the status of seeds and fertilizer utilization to LGU.
- 3. Execute the proper distribution of corn seeds and inorganic fertilizers to qualified cluster member beneficiaries approved by the DA-RFO.

D. Farmer Beneficiaries

- 1. Provide data to cluster organization on previous farming activities.
- 2. Receive the allocated corn seeds and inorganic fertilizers (based on area to be planted) and utilize them following the recommended production technology.
- 3. Allow DA-RFO and LGU to visit his/her area in order to assess the performance of corn production.
- 4. Implement other recommended production and post-harvest practices as per advice of the assigned Agricultural Extension Workers (AEW) in the area.

5. Provide information/data, and other pertinent documents (e.g. Previous cost of production, Client Satisfaction Feedback (CSF) forms) and regular report on the status of seeds and fertilizer utilization to cluster organization.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES

The DA-RFOs are hereby authorized to formulate detailed supplementary guidelines to address peculiar situations per region. These supplemental guidelines shall be subject to the approval of the Senior Undersecretary prior to implementation.

This Memorandum Order may be reviewed, amended or supplemented as the need arises and only through a written instrument duly executed and signed by the Senior Undersecretary.

VII. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If any clause, sentence, or provision of the Memorandum Order shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

VII. REPEALING CLAUSE

All other previous orders, issuances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to this Memorandum Circular are hereby repealed and revoked.

IX. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE

This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately upon signing and shall be valid unless revoked and superseded by other issuances.

Done this 16th day of January , 2023.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN Senior Undersecretary

