



Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
Elliptical Road, Diliman  
1100 Quezon City

## **SPECIAL ORDER**

No. 457  
Series of 2023

**SUBJECT: CREATION OF A NATIONAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP TO CONDUCT A STUDY AND IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT ENTITLED "FOOD DEMAND AND SUPPLY STRUCTURE IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF HERMOSA AND DINALUPIHAN, BATAAN", OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ZERO KILOMETER FOOD PROJECT" or "0 KM".**

In the interest of service and in line with the Department of Agriculture's (DA) mandate of ensuring food sufficiency and security, the High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) and the Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS), in collaboration with the Local Government Units of Hermosa and Dinalupihan, Bataan, are hereby authorized to conduct a pilot study and implement the "*Zero Kilometer Food Project*" ("*0 KM.*"). It aims to develop the food demand and supply structure of the Municipalities of Hermosa and Dinalupihan, Bataan, towards the end goal of sustainable and stable local food production and consumption of locally-produced high-value crops and other agricultural commodities. The expected outcome of the project is sustainable demand-driven high-value crop production, yielding higher income for high-value crop producers and lower market prices for the community.

The 0 KM food concept embraces the use and consumption of locally grown fruits, vegetables, and other non-industrially produced food products which have not traveled far, or more literally that the food has traveled "zero kilometers" before being eaten.<sup>1</sup> It promotes healthy eating while minimizing the cost and environmental impact of transporting the products.

To implement the Project, the *0 KM. Food Project* National Technical Working Group (NTWG) is hereby created and constituted as follows:

<b>Chairperson:</b>	<b>Gerald Glenn F. Panganiban, Ph.D</b> Director, Bureau of Plant Industry National Director for HVCDP & National Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Program
<b>Alternate Chairperson:</b>	<b>Junibert E. De Sagun</b> OIC-Director, DA Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS)
<b>Members:</b>	<b>Atty. Joycel R. Panlilio</b> Project Development Officer, HVCDP
	<b>Jose Jeffrey D. Rodriguez</b> Project Development Officer, HVCDP

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.livitaly.com/zero-km-food-in-italy/>

	<b>Enrique G. Dela Cruz</b> Project Development Officer, HVCDP
	<b>Maria Rabi M. Mendez</b> Project Development Officer, HVCDP
	<b>Geronimo C. Dela Cruz</b> Project Development Officer, HVCDP

The NTWG is further authorized to collaborate and work with the following and other relevant agencies and offices:

<b><i>Collaborating Bureaus, University and Offices</i></b>	Provincial Agriculture Office of Bataan
	Municipal Agriculture Office of Hermosa, Bataan
	Municipal Agriculture Office of Dinalupihan, Bataan
	Bataan Peninsula State University
	DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR)
	DA-Agricultural Training Institute
	DA-Regional Field Office III
	Agribusiness, and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD), DA RFO III
	HVCDP Regional Management Office, DA RFO III

The 0 KM. NTWG shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Conduct field validation with the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist-Bataan, Municipal Agriculturist Office-Hermosa and Dinalupihan, Bataan, the Bataan Peninsula State University, and key government and private stakeholders;
2. Coordinate and collaborate with the local government units, DA-Regional Field Office III, and other partner collaborating and implementing offices;
3. Recommend and facilitate the creation of Regional and/or Municipal Technical Working Group/s, when necessary.
4. Collaborate and work with the Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) for the field validation, designation of enumerators and validators to be assigned to the project and preparation of the project reports;
5. Request for designation of project coordinators or focal persons at the regional level for coordination with other participants;
6. Request for agricultural production, food consumption, food sources data and other relevant data from, and verify the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) entries by, the municipalities of Hermosa and Dinalupihan;
7. Work with experts and individuals with diverse backgrounds and specializations;
8. Participate in activities related to marketing, field training for farmers, and other related activities;
9. Participate in the monitoring and evaluation activities in the field such as baseline study, midterm, and end line;
10. Prepare monthly and/or quarterly progress reports;
11. Prepare the output or result of the study to include policy recommendations on the gathering and utilization of local supply and demand data for a demand-driven, efficient and sustainable food production at the local level; and
12. Perform other functions to achieve the target results of the project.



The NTWG shall have two (2) regular meetings per month and a number of special meetings as may be required per quarter. It shall be supported by a Secretariat composed of staff from the DA-HVCDP National Program Management Office to ensure that project supervision and other related activities at the national and regional levels and at the project sites are carried out.

Expenses for the conduct of the study and the research output of the project shall be chargeable against the available funds of the DA-BAR, subject to compliance with its existing documentary requirements and criteria for funding. Travel, *per diem*, and incidental expenses for the conduct of activities under the O KM. shall be chargeable against the respective offices' funds, subject to availability funds and existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until revoked in writing. All orders and memoranda inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 18th day of April 2023.

**DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN**  
Senior Undersecretary



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