



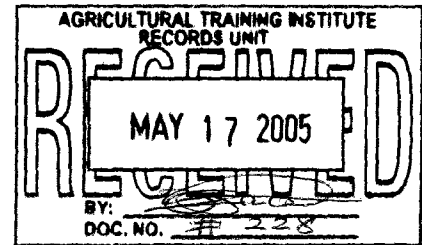
Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City 1100

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)

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SUBJECT: THE NATIONAL EXTENSION AGENDA AND PROGRAMS (NEAP)

In the interest of the service and in pursuit of the provisions of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997 (AFMA) and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) contained in DA Administrative Order No. 6, the following agenda and programs shall be immediately adopted in supporting the local governments' agriculture and fisheries extension programs in the Philippines:

1. BASIC POLICY AND RATIONALE

- 1.1. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the AFMA designate the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) of the Department of Agriculture (DA) as the overall manager for agriculture and fisheries training and extension in the country. Specifically, the AFMA mandates that the ATI advises the DA in managing financial and logistical support for extension, and provides leadership in formulating the national agriculture and fisheries extension agenda and budget (Rules 81.11.2 and 81.11.3).
- 1.2. In order to address the above-mandate and to respond to the clamor of the concerned stakeholders, the Department in consultation with its partners in the agriculture and fisheries sectors, hereby provides the directions, focus and unity of delivering quality extension service to address the diverse needs of the sectors.

2. EXTENSION AGENDA AND PROGRAMS

2.1. Over-all Framework for Extension

The National Extension Agenda and Programs (NEAP) shall reflect the contributions of the stakeholders of agri-fisheries extension delivery system in the country. It shall address the diverse nature of the country's agriculture and fisheries needs and requirements for assistance and at the same time supporting the government's priority commodity programs. It shall also foster a range of

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partnership arrangements in the utilization of both public and non-public institutional resources.

The extension functions of the Department of Agriculture (DA) shall be undertaken by the Regional Field Units (RFUs) and the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) in collaboration with the Local Government Units (LGUs) and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs). On the other hand, the ATI Regional Training Centers (RTCs), shall design and implement programs which are consistent and functionally integrated with the RFU's regional agriculture and fisheries development strategy and program.

2.2. Thematic Agenda and Programs

The following thematic agenda and programs shall be the focus of funding support to any extension grants in the country:

2.2.1 Capacity Development of the Extension System

- 2.2.1.1 Formulating training designs on location specific technologies using innovative instructional systems/methodologies.
- 2.2.1.2 Establishing demonstration services (result/method/demonstration/showcase/model).
- 2.2.1.3 Providing innovative agri/fishery business advisory systems based on success stories of location specific and appropriate agriculture practices.
- 2.2.1.4 Disseminating good agriculture and fishery practices as well as information on markets, prices, supply and demand of commodities.
- 2.2.1.5 Generating financial resources and establishing partnering mechanism for cost-sharing of resources in implementing extension programs.
- 2.2.1.6 Developing mechanisms for the allocation of grants in the conduct of extension programs.
- 2.2.1.7 Upgrading the infrastructure of the delivery system (i.e. the training centers, use of ICT for cyber extension development, tri-media capability and collaboration).

2.2.2 Capability Building of Extension Workers, Farmers/Fishers as Manager/Entrepreneurs

- 2.2.2.1 Upgrading the competencies of the extension personnel.
- 2.2.2.2 Educating the farmer/fisherfolk and his nuclear family and the community through farmer-led extension.

2.2.2.3 Developing farmer/fisher as entrepreneur in the areas of required knowledge, attitude, skills and resources and facilitating access to modern technology and markets.

2.2.2.4 Increasing the competitiveness of the farmer/fisher entrepreneurs through active involvement in the supply chain.

2.2.2.5 Providing technical assistance in program development and analyzing product and market information for the establishment of enterprises.

2.2.2.6 Linking trained farmers/fishers with marketing organizations such as cooperatives and other business enterprises.

2.2.3. Development of Functional Extension Management Models

2.2.3.1. Designing innovative extension management models.

2.2.3.2. Adopting best practices on Extension Delivery Systems from the ASEAN Region.

2.2.3.3. Developing Participatory Methodologies and Approaches for an Effective Extension Delivery including the Client-Oriented Participatory Extension (COPE) or the so called farmer-led extension.

2.2.4. Enrichment/Improvement of Extension Policies, Mechanisms, and Approaches

2.2.4.1. Preparing a compendium of national and local extension policies.

2.2.4.2. Assessing extension policies, mechanisms and approaches.

2.2.4.3 Expanding the tested extension participatory approaches.

2.2.5. Monitoring and Evaluation of Outcomes and Impacts of Extension Services

2.2.5.1. Establishing a national database system for extension in harmony with the National Information Network (NIN).

2.2.5.2. Formulating extension indicators, and measurement of outcomes and impact.

2.2.5.3. Undertaking participatory monitoring and evaluation of extension services.

2.2.6. Sourcing and Generating Resources for Effective Extension

- 2.2.6.1. Maximizing the use of under-utilized training facilities, farms and open spaces to generate income.
- 2.2.6.2. Establishing linkages with local and international institutions for joint undertakings.
- 2.2.6.3. Effecting appropriate modes in resource complementation among extension service providers.

3. MECHANISMS AND INSTRUMENTS FOR EFFECTING COLLABORATION/ PARTNERSHIP

3.1 Convergence Initiatives and Linkages shall be pursued to harmonize, unite and enhance the delivery services to the client system and stakeholders. Such initiatives shall:

- 3.1.1 Provide strong linkage between and among extension and other services, particularly research and development and market; and
- 3.1.2 Be driven by the needs of the farming communities and the commonality of services of key players. The farming communities shall serve as the convergence areas where any agriculture and fisheries extension interventions are determined including the needed mechanisms and instruments for partnership and collaboration.

3.2 Horizontal and Vertical Networks

3.2.1 Major Final Output on Extension Support, Education and Training Services (MFO – ESETS)

MFO-ESETS envisions to harmonize all extension, education and training services rendered not only by the DA, but also by agencies and institutions outside the Department to strengthen the extension delivery system of agriculture and fisheries.

3.2.2 Advisory Councils

To advise the ATI on extension policy issues and concerns, the National Extension Advisory Council (NEAC) shall be in place. Furthermore, the what-used-to-be extension management and/or advisory councils in the regions and in the local government units shall be tapped to complement in the effective implementation of various extension programs. These councils shall be revitalized to support the extension system in those areas.

3.3 Functional Mechanisms and Instruments

Collaborative partnership in extension shall be formalized through Memoranda of Agreement/Understanding (MOA/U). It shall reflect the specific responsibilities and obligations of each of the collaborating agencies to ensure accountability. Further, the cost-sharing scheme between the LGUs and the National Government through the DA shall be adopted.

3.4 Budget for Extension

Under the AFMA Law and Administrative Order No. 42 as reiterated on March 16, 2004, the delivery of extension services shall be supported by the following measures:

- 3.4.1 Allocation of multi-year budgets that shall be treated as grants;
- 3.4.2 Transfer of funds from the Department of Agriculture to the local government units as extension grants through the ATI as manager of extension funds;
- 3.4.3 The budget for agriculture and fisheries extension services allocated by DBM at no less than one percent (1%) of the gross value added (GVA), which shall be incorporated in the annual national appropriation act.
- 3.4.4 Allotment of:
 - 3.4.4.1 Direct costs of all extension activities of DA flagship commodity programs (Rice, Corn, Livestock, Fisheries and High Value Crops);
 - 3.4.4.2 LGU annual core budget for agricultural extension;
 - 3.4.4.3 Core Agriculture and Fishery Extension (AFE) funds of DA bureaus, attached agencies/corporations and Foreign Assisted Projects (FAPs).
- 3.4.5 Other sources from resource generation efforts through joint undertakings, grants, donations and sharing schemes.
 - 3.4.5.1 Diversified Farm Income and Market Development Project (DFIMDP) fund for ATI operations for the years 2005 – 2007.

4. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Regionalizing NEAP

In view of the location-specificity of agriculture and fisheries extension interventions, the ATI Regional Training Centers, together with the DA Regional Field Units, shall implement the NEAP according to its adoptability in the Regions. Initially they shall translate the document into regional terms - and shall be called the Regional Extension Agenda and Programs or REAP - ensuring consistency with and/or support for the region's priority commodity programs and undertakings. The REAP shall be disseminated accordingly to all concerned agencies and institutions for adoption.

4.2 Roles and Responsibilities

As indicated in the AFMA/and AO 42 (1999 and reiterated on March 16, 2004), all stakeholders shall have the following roles and responsibilities in extension:

4.2.1 The Local Government Units (LGUs)

The provincial/municipal/city LGUs shall coordinate and lead in the delivery of extension service directly to the farmers/fishers and his nuclear family. Specifically, they shall

- 4.2.1.1 Formulate their Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Modernization Plan consistent with national thrusts and directions;
- 4.2.1.2 Ensure that there is research and development, extension and market complementation;
- 4.2.1.3 Undertake continuing and periodic annual evaluation of extension programs;
- 4.2.1.4 Share costs/resources (provincial, municipal and barangay levels) for extension interventions;
- 4.2.1.5 Provide pertinent data necessary for agricultural extension activities;
- 4.2.1.6 Coordinate and oversee program implementation;
- 4.2.1.7 Review programs and recommend remedial measures when necessary; and
- 4.2.1.8 Facilitate fund sourcing for program implementation.

4.2.2 Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Units (DA-RFUs)

- 4.2.2.1 Together with ATI, formulate programs to provide continuing education and technical assistance to LGUs in sectoral planning and programming;

- 4.2.2.2 Periodically assess the agricultural and fishery planning and programming capability of LGUs;
- 4.2.2.3 Undertake extension services in collaboration with LGUs and SUCs, and;
- 4.2.2.4 Monitor and evaluate plans and programs;
- 4.2.2.5 Ensure that there is research and development, extension and market complementation at the regional level.

4.2.3 Agricultural Training Institute (ATI)

- 4.2.3.1 Advise the DA in the management of financial and logistical support for extension;
- 4.2.3.2 Provide leadership in the formulation of the national agriculture and fisheries extension agenda and budget;
- 4.2.3.3 Implement Monitoring and Evaluation on extension;
- 4.2.3.4 Ensure that there is research and development, extension and market complementation at the national level;
- 4.2.3.5 Prepare an integrated public-funded training plan in agriculture and fishery;
- 4.2.3.6 Set up a certification system for vocational and technical training in agriculture in collaboration with the TESDA;
- 4.2.3.7 Develop and administer a national human resource development program for short-term and degree and non-degree training for LGU extension personnel;
- 4.2.3.8 Maintain a computerized database on extension force and extension service providers and develop an accreditation system for private entities;
- 4.2.3.9 Provide continuing development communication support through the tri-media for the nationwide extension system and;
- 4.2.3.10 In consultation with all the appropriate agencies and entities, formulate the parameters and guidelines for:
 - 4.2.3.10.1 The planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural and fisheries extension;

- 4.2.3.10.2 National merit and promotion system for extension personnel;
- 4.2.3.10.3 Co-financing agreement with the local government units on the financing agriculture and fisheries extension programs;
- 4.2.3.10.4 Preparation of Extension Programs of SUCs;
- 4.2.3.10.5 Harnessing the resources and the expertise of the private sector in the provision of extension services; and
- 4.2.3.10.6 Evaluation of agricultural and fisheries extension performance, activities, institutions and outputs.

4.2.4 State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)

- 4.2.4.1 Primarily focus on the improvement of the capability of the LGU extension service by providing:
 - 4.2.4.1.1 Degree and non-degree training programs;
 - 4.2.4.1.2 Technical assistance ;
 - 4.2.4.1.3 Extension cum research activities;
 - 4.2.4.1.4 Monitoring and evaluation of LGU extension programs; and
 - 4.2.4.1.5 Information support services through the tri-media and electronics.

4.2.5 National Government Agencies (NGAs) other than DA

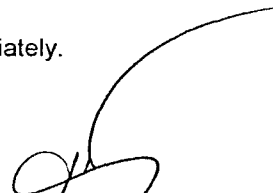
- 4.2.5.1 Provide technical assistance and other services based on their mandate;
- 4.2.5.2 Train LGU extension personnel;
- 4.2.5.3 Improve physical facilities;
- 4.2.5.4 Conduct extension cum research; and
- 4.2.5.5 Provide information support services.

4.2.6 Private Sector (Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and People's Organizations (POs))

- 4.2.6.1 Assist in community organizing and use of participatory approaches; and
- 4.2.6.2 Popularize training materials, regenerative agricultural technologies, agri-business and management skills.

This Administrative Order is issued to complement and supplement Administrative Order No. 42, series of 1999, dated 14 October 1999 and reiterated on March 16, 2004. All other orders and issuances inconsistent with this Order are hereby revoked.

This Order shall take effect immediately.



ARTHUR C. YAP
Secretary

March 31, 2005

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