



MONTHLY REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MARCH | 2021

Center/Division: **RTC-CAR**

PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
<p style="text-align: center;">Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Training</p>	<p>TRAINING IN SUPPORT TO GAD FOR ATI STAFF: GAD LEARNING SESSION PHASE 2 FOR ATI-CAR STAFF – March 4-5, 2021, DA-ATI-CAR, BSU Compound and Mt. Kalugong, La Trinidad, Benguet</p> <p>This year, the Center still is one in celebrating the Women’s Month with the theme “Juana Laban sa Pandemya: Kaya!” This theme is in observance of the women’s participation in battling the pandemic as well as discusses gender issues aggravated by the pandemic. Part of the month-long celebration was the Phase II of the GAD Learning Session for the DA-ATI-CAR staff to follow up their actions plans on their healthy lifestyle and nutrition.</p> <p>An input on Mental Health was discussed to help not just the women but also the men of DA-ATI-CAR on mental preparedness and management while everyone is already living with the new normal. Resource person were Dr. Shelly Aral, Medical Officer IV, DOH-CAR and Mr. Shamgar Douglas Mangidan Jr., Health Program Officer, DOH-CAR.</p> <p>A writing input and session was also accomplished to come up with an output in highlighting every staffs’ coping mechanisms in 2020 while facing the pandemic.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>“The presentation of our four women staff yesterday made me realize that we shouldn’t be judging people by what we see and hear because we do not know what’s happening in their lives. Let us consider that it is not all about work. Personally, I am a result-oriented woman. I tend to say, “so what if you are going through that problem, today is work time and we have to work then face the problem later”. But I realized that everyone has their own challenges in life. Also about mental health. I’ve been sitting to many counselling and I agree that not all who wants to talk to you will be needing your response. Some of them already know the answer, they just want someone to listen or just looking for someone to support them or just needing someone to be with them at that moment. Just being there is enough for the person. For this learning session, I was refreshed again to practice writing because for my job, I’m only dealing with numbers.” - Khareen Banawe, DMO I</i></p> <p><i>“Thank you for doing this fruitful and active activity for us. Mental health is a learning for us. It is not all about depression alone but it is actually our well-being, our mental stability. Thank you for inviting experts on this for us to learn. The discussion of Ms. Glory yesterday (in her sharing of her coping mechanism as a single woman) is a learning for all of us that we don’t need someone to make us happy or feel fulfilled. You yourself can make yourself happy by doing the things that you want. I can say that Manang Glo is actually a very independent woman. Also, the sharing of Maam Arlene is actually true in terms of our mental health. The generation now are prone to stress compared to their generation. Students nowadays are into social media. For me, I sometimes seek validation from the social media and that actually made me struggle a lot. I tend to make myself more powerful by doing the things that I like. There are many factors that affect our mental health. Thank you so much for these learnings that we had for this activity.” Gideon Ammang, Admin. Assistant to PMESU</i></p>



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<p style="text-align: center;">Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Training</p>	<p>“BANTAY ASF SA BARANGAY: TRAINING ON BIOSECURITY, SURVEILLANCE AND SAMPLE COLLECTION FOR ASF CONTROL”</p> <p>African Swine Fever (ASF) is an infectious disease of swine notifiable in the European Union (EU) and to the World Organization for Animal Health. Susceptible pigs can be infected by direct or indirect contact with infectious animals or their fluids, ingestion of contaminated animal feed, pork, or pig products, or contact with contaminated surfaces or fomites (clothing, footwear, vehicles, farming tools, etc).</p> <p>This activity focused on the implementation of various education support and training services regarding the biosecurity and surveillance as the Philippines experience an upsurge of ASF Cases. Prevention is the best medicine and having a plan to stop the spread of the disease is the greatest defense to keep pork free of truly devastating illnesses. Awareness of disease spread through all avenues to farm are key to developing a sound and practical biosecurity protocol.</p> <p>On March 10, 2021, two (2) batches of Training on Biosecurity, Surveillance and Sample Collection for ASF Control were conducted virtually via Zoom application. Both batches were completed by 15 participants and resource persons during the activity were Dr. Maximino Montenegro from the Philippine College of Swine Practitioner who discussed on <i>Bantay ASF sa Barangay Project and Biosecurity Assessment Plan and Biosecurity and Surveillance</i>, Dr. Angel Antonio Manabat, DVM, FPCSP Training Services Manager, Pig Improvement Company (PIC) with his topic on <i>Biosecurity Level Checklist, and Biosecurity Audit</i>), Dr. Clarissa Jueco-Domingo, Professor, CLSU-CVSM (<i>Input on Nano Gold Technology</i>), Dr. Joely T. Ongtangco, Section Shief, RADDL DA-RFO III tackled on <i>Sample Collection, Handling, Storage and transport of Laboratory Specimen for ASF Tests</i>, and Dr. Romeo Manalili, Vet IV/Regional Veterinary Quarantine Officer (RVQO), provided <i>Guidelines in Swine movement: Regulation of Animal Movement and Control of Animal Diseases</i>.</p> <p>Learnings and agreements noted were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weak or strong positive yielded using the Nano gold test kit is still positive, that needs to be reported and be given attention and proper action to prevent the spread of the virus 2. Biosecurity form for evaluation/assessment will be sent to the PVOs in the provinces to be used during the trainings of the Barangay Biosecurity Officers 3. LGUs will select the BBOs to be endorsed at the PVOs. The ATI will provide the training and certificates with the PVOs.



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<p style="text-align: center;">Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Training</p>	<p>“2021 BANTAY ASF SA BARANGAY BIOSECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE LECTURE AND WORKSHOP FOR VETERINARIANS”</p> <p>The activity focused on the implementation of various education support and training services regarding the biosecurity and surveillance since the Philippines is currently experiencing an upsurge of African Swine Fever (ASF) cases.</p> <p>No vaccine or treatment is available against ASF. Therefore, prevention and control of the disease is mainly based on the early detection of the disease by timely recognition in the field and efficient laboratory diagnosis, followed by the implementation of strict sanitary measures. Adequate implementation of sanitary measures will reduce the number of secondary outbreaks on domestic pig farms, which will decrease the potential contamination of the environment and, finally minimize the likelihood of infection in wild boar.</p> <p>Specifically, it sought to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. perform basic biosecurity profile, 2. explain the current biosecurity problems, 3. identify methods for early detection of the disease, and 4. perform basic surveillance <p>Further, it was aimed that the participants shall develop a biosecurity plan and assessment to break the spread of ASF in their respective areas of operation.</p> <p>There were four (4) batches conducted this month conducted on March 9, 2021 via Zoom application. Each batch was composed of 15 participants. Resource Speaker Dr. Angel Antonio C. Manabat discussed the importance of biosecurity in preventing the spread of ASF to the participants online and Dr. Clarissa Jueco-Domingo, Professor, CLSU-CVSM, provided input on Nano Gold Technology.</p> <p>Learnings and agreements made included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bantay ASF sa Barangay can contribute to ASF Control and prevention and lead to successful restocking of swine farms in ASF infected zones 2. To contain ASF, it needs a collective/collaborative effort from everyone who are involve in swine production from the government, SUCs, private organization, LGUs and especially our farmers. 3. Biosecurity aims to put layers and layers between the virus or possible source of the virus and the pigs



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>TRAINING ON POTATO SEED PRODUCTION EMPLOYING GAP AND POTATO SEED CERTIFICATION FOR POTATO CLUSTERS IN BENGUET</p> <p>The activity was conducted on March 15-17, attended by 37 farmers from Balili, Mankayan, Benguet. Generally, it aimed to let the participants adopt/practice the principles of good agricultural practices in their production of quality table potato and potato seed tubers.</p> <p>Topics discussed were <i>Status of Potato Production in CAR</i> by Ms. Remedios Lawingan, HVCD Focal, DA-RFO CAR, <i>Mechanics and Requirements in Seed Certification; Policies and Guidelines on Potato Seed Certification</i> by Ms. Catherine Balaoing, Regional-Chief, BPI-NSQCS CAR, <i>GAP Certification Experience</i> by Mr. Hector de la Cruz, Owner, <i>GAP Certified Farm, Varietal Selection and Characteristics of the Approved PSB/NSIC Registered Potato Varieties and Potato Seed Tubers Production and Management; Other Potato Propagation Methods; Potato Tuber Production and Management</i> by Ms. Cynthia Kiswa, SSRS, BSU NPRCRTC, <i>Integrated Pest and Disease Management</i> by Teresita Masangcay, SSRS, BSU NPRCRTC, and <i>Highlights of Philippine National Standard on GAP and its Requirements and Values Orientation</i> by Ms. Cristine Esnara, Sr. Agriculturist, DA-ATI-CAR.</p> <p>Agreement made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All organizations attended will be provided with potato tubers produced by BSU NPRCRTC, provided that they are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 80% of the members of the organization should be registered in the RSBSA; b. GAP compliant; and accredited in the Department of Agriculture. <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>“Thank you for conducting this training here in our Barangay. Thank you for the additional knowledge shared - how seed certification is done, how to control pest and diseases of potato, for the new terms learned and for my co-participants who actively participated in this training and for the sharing of GAP experiences that encourages us to do the same and challenges us to change our negative mindset.” – Ms. Shalimar B. Omaney, Farmer, Bosigan MPC</i></p> <p><i>“Thank you for reminding us the best ways in managing our farms, from cleaning to planting to harvesting. I appreciate the activities and the sample seedlings given to us by organization. Thank you for making this training interactive.” – Mr. Geoffrey N. Biniasan, Farmer, Bosigan MPC</i></p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>BANTAY ASF SA BARANGAY: “TRAINING ON SPECIMEN COLLECTION FOR BARANGAY BIOSECURITY OFFICERS (BBO)</p> <p>The ASF disease problem is continuously devastating the Swine industry. Last year, the ATI-ITCPH piloted the Batangas province, in the implementation of the multi-stakeholder engagement Bantay ASF sa Barangay Project. It aims to re-classify the red zones to yellow zones by early 2021 and transform 90% of Batangas small hold pork producers into a more bio secure enterprise. The project aims for business continuity by preventing loss of livelihood of both smallholder and commercial swine farmers and assisting in the repopulation of swine farms in infected areas where feasible, and also to assist in the control and spread of ASF from infected to non-infected areas, protecting pockets of small holder and commercial swine farms in a given barangay of municipality free of ASF but located in provinces where ASF has been reported.</p> <p>Generally, the activity aimed that the capacitated Barangay Biosecurity Officers (BBOs) should be able to demonstrate skills in collecting specimen for laboratory testing. Specifically, it sought to apply appropriate handling and restraining technique; prepare supplies, materials, tools in collection and transport of specimen; prepare animals for collection; demonstrate skills for collecting different specimen; and demonstrate proper handling, packaging and transport of specimen.</p> <p>Details of batches conducted were:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="588 755 1771 885"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATCH</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>NO. OF PAX</th> <th>VENUE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>March 16, 2021</td> <td>7</td> <td>Aspulan Hall, DA-ATI-CAR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>March 18, 2021</td> <td>17</td> <td>Municipal Agriculture Office, Kapangan, Benguet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>March 25, 2021</td> <td>19</td> <td>Calaba, Bangued Abra</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Learnings and agreements made:</p> <p>For Benguet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The province of Benguet created their own biosecurity surveillance form before the form being used by the PCSP, thus, the BBOs of Benguet can use the form for the province. 2. BBOs to be really vigilant and be strict when it comes to the implementation of the surveillance and quarantine to save our pigs and our livelihood. 3. Any problem that will arise during the implementation of the program should be coordinated immediately in the PVO Benguet. 4. Collection of blood for laboratory tests takes time and needs more practice. 5. BBOs will be invited during the conduct of surveillance in their barangays for them to be trained more. <p>For Abra</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All hogs and its byproducts entering the municipality of Abra should have complete documents. 2. Any signs and symptoms of ASF observe must be immediately reported to the MLGUs and PVO Abra. 3. Proper restraining of the animal must be observed at all times to avoid injury and further stress. 	BATCH	DATE	NO. OF PAX	VENUE	1	March 16, 2021	7	Aspulan Hall, DA-ATI-CAR	2	March 18, 2021	17	Municipal Agriculture Office, Kapangan, Benguet	3	March 25, 2021	19	Calaba, Bangued Abra
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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>TRAINING ON STRAWBERRY PRODUCTION EMPLOYING GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (GAP) FOR STRAWBERRY CLUSTERS IN BENGUET</p> <p>Strawberry is a tropical fruit that thrives well in provinces of Benguet and some municipalities of Mt. Province due to the favorable climatic condition for strawberry production. The demand is high particularly during holiday seasons. Other than La Trinidad, the City of Baguio, Itogon, Tuba, Sablan and Tublay and other municipalities were encouraged to plant in order to supply the increasing demand.</p> <p>Being a special crop in the region, it was agreed during the DA-RFO-CAR and DA-ATI-CAR harmonization to help strengthen and capacitate the farmer organizations identified in the Strawberry Cluster areas specifically on the appropriate technologies for the production of runners, production management especially of the newly introduced varieties and seedling certification protocol. Further, there is also need to discuss the Philippine National Standard (PNS) on the Code of Good Agricultural Practices on Strawberry for FOOD SAFETY and SUSTAINABILITY.</p> <p>This three-day activity was conducted on April 23-25 at NEAP CAR, DepEd, Wangal, La Trinidad, Benguet, attended by 24 participants.</p> <p>Impressions: <i>“This training is great because we get to meet our co-farmers from different organizations. We learned a lot from the lessons imparted to us. One of the things that was presented that I came to appreciate is the tissue culture. I think it has an impact and a nice practice adopt.”</i> – Robinson Sadey, STCNA</p> <p><i>“On behalf of Madaymen Good Agricultural Practitioners Association, we are grateful because we were invited to join this training. Some of my learning is the need to produce as safe & quality strawberry from our farm and to pursue for GAP certification for a better market access. Thank you very much ATI-CAR, DA-RFO and to our RP for this training. May God bless us all.”</i> – Celia Juan, MGPA Madaymen, Kibungan, Benguet</p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>BARANGAY-BASED TRAINING ON CORN-BASED INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM WITH STARTER KITS FOR FARMERS ASSOCIATIONS OF TUBA, BENGUET - March 16-18, 2021 – San Pascual, Tuba, Benguet (Batch 1)</p> <p>Corn is one of the major crops of the country and in the Cordillera Administrative Region. CAR contributes to the national production volume with its wide production area distributed in different provinces of the region. Being a potential crop, it is included as among the region’s priority for expansion and development. Corn-based integrated farming system is one area for development as corn is produced in the region as a single crop every season.</p> <p>The opportunities provided by integrated farming system includes: productivity and increased economic yield per unit area – per unit time by virtue of intensification of crops, agricultural crop rotation and allied enterprises. Also, integrated farming systems provide opportunities as crop insurance cover as money round the year are obtained from different farm produces. It promotes technology infusion research and development integrated with indigenous/traditional knowledge.</p> <p>This training undertaken was designed for the corn and cassava farmers to discover the greatest potentials of integrated farming system when they consider them as a practice that will increase the resiliency and long-term sustainability of the production system. Likewise, this training course served as an avenue to exhaust effort in the documentation of corn-based farming system practices in the corn-producing municipalities of the region.</p> <p>This 1st batch was attended by 20 participants.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>I would like to express my gratitude to the implementing agency, ATI-CAR and MLGU-Tuba for the support and extending these technologies to us. I am really glad that I gained knowledge on these farming system practices and technologies that we can adopt and be able to integrate it with livestock. Thank you very much. - Mr. Pedro G. Cruz, San Pascual Tuba, Benguet, Farmer/President of CPFIA</i></p> <p><i>In behalf of Tarong Ube Growers Association, I am also glad for this training for I acquired new knowledge on the different production practices of integrated farming system which we can replicate in our farms. We hope for more trainings and updates on other farming technologies that would continue to motivate and encourage us. This will help us greatly for us to sustain our production and be informed of the latest farming technology. - Ms. Evelyn T. Benawe, San Pascual, Tuba, Benguet, Farmer/President of TUGA</i></p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>COACHING ON URBAN AGRICULTURE/ HOME GARDENING</p> <p>The launching of the Plant Plant Plant Program of the Department of Agriculture in 2020 had benefitted both the urban and the rural communities of the Cordillera Region. The Urban Agriculture Program was likewise launched targeting the urban dwellers to produce food even in small areas for food and income and lessen their dependence from the provinces' produce. This was the immediate action of the Department of Agriculture (DA) to make sure that the people can have an easy access of food while there are still imposed restrictions on mobility.</p> <p>Last year, the DA-ATI-CAR conducted a total of 66 urban agriculture coaching activities supporting these programs of the DA. Apart from providing immediate food for the family which is the general objective of the program, the implementation also brought out innovation from the participants in designing their home gardens and it also became a part of reconnecting and bonding families. The Center also provided incentives and awards to deserving individuals who have successfully established their home gardens applying the principles and learnings discussed during the coaching.</p> <p>This year continues the implementation of the program to cater to the groups who have expressed their intention to be involved in the program because of the observed outcome and results from the previous year. Starter kits will also be provided to the participants for them to utilize in application of the modules to be delivered to them. Complete starter kits is composed of five (5) sachets of upland seeds (pechay, upland kangkong, zucchini, romaine lettuce, and french beans), 10 kg of compost/vermicast, 2 pieces of seedling tray, 1 piece of hand trowel, 1 watering can, polyethylene plastic (PEP) pot, 1 eco-bag and print materials.</p> <p>Participants are expected to establish their own home gardens which will be monitored by the Center. The table below presents the details of coaching on Urban Agriculture/ Home Gardening conducted this month. Four (4) batches were conducted under Regular Program.</p> <p><i>Table 1. Details of coaching activities conducted</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="583 1089 2033 1386"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="583 1089 1422 1141">TITLE</th> <th data-bbox="1422 1089 1764 1141">DATE</th> <th data-bbox="1764 1089 2033 1141">NO. OF PAX</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="583 1141 2033 1193">REGULAR PROGRAM</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="583 1193 1422 1245">1. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 1)</td> <td data-bbox="1422 1193 1764 1245">March 30, 2021</td> <td data-bbox="1764 1193 2033 1245">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="583 1245 1422 1297">2. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 2)</td> <td data-bbox="1422 1245 1764 1297">March 30, 2021</td> <td data-bbox="1764 1245 2033 1297">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="583 1297 1422 1349">3. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 3)</td> <td data-bbox="1422 1297 1764 1349">March 31, 2021</td> <td data-bbox="1764 1297 2033 1349">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="583 1349 1422 1386">4. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 4)</td> <td data-bbox="1422 1349 1764 1386">March 31, 2021</td> <td data-bbox="1764 1349 2033 1386">15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	TITLE	DATE	NO. OF PAX	REGULAR PROGRAM			1. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 1)	March 30, 2021	15	2. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 2)	March 30, 2021	15	3. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 3)	March 31, 2021	15	4. Coaching on Urban Agriculture / Home Gardening (Batch 4)	March 31, 2021	15
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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p><i>Impressions:</i></p> <p><i>“I very much appreciate this activity for the technologies being discuss, the container gardening, landscaping, demonstration and preparation of concoctions, composting, and a guide to vegetable production. Though this technologies I learn on how to utilize resources or raw materials for production of own home consumption vegetables.” Mr. Paul John B. Gumuwang, Farmer</i></p> <p><i>“Through this training, we are very much thankful to ATI-CAR for implementing this Urban Agriculture Program in our Barangay. We learned on how to maximize available areas through landscaping, container gardening and vertical gardening upon the utilization of ecological waste for production of safe vegetables. We are glad for more trainings and updates for more enhancement of farmer’s capabilities.” - Ms. Teresita B. Acerit, Farmer</i></p> <p><i>“I am glad for attending this activity for the updates of preparing concoctions, production strategies, and preparation of botanical extracts, does and don’ts of preparing compost and 5 S of farming as management practices. Thank you from the knowledgeable speakers for the ideas and technologies you imparted, to the BLGU-Taloy Sur for the assistance and facility and to ATI-CAR for the service and implementation of the activity.” Geraldo A. Meana, Farmer</i></p>
		<p>RBO ORIENTATION AND UPDATES FOR THE LGU- AEWs/RBO COORDINATORS AND THEIR ALTERNATES BATCH 1 - March 30-31,2021</p> <p>Rural Based Organizations (RBOs) are recognized as functional avenues for development. Through Administrative Order No. 09 series 2002 of the Department of Agriculture, it was encouraged that these RBOs be revitalized and strengthened in order that they can become productive. The organization and management of these organizations are mainly lodged to the Local Government Units (LGUs). These organizations are organized at the barangay level and federated at the Municipal and Provincial level by the LGU Coordinators and at the Regional level by the Regional RBO Coordinators of DA-RFO-CAR and DA-ATI-CAR. The task is to ensure a continuous development and maintenance of vibrant RBOs in the region. This can be achieved if the Coordinators continuously perform their function of organizing and maintaining these RBOs. Thus, an orientation for Coordinators and updates on the program was undertaken on March 30 – 31 at the DA-ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet.</p> <p>Mr. Jener B. Dizon, TS II, 4-H Focal DA-ATI-CAR, provided an introduction on the Legal Basis of RBO, RBO Milestone and Development, Importance of RBO in Agricultural Development, and Roles and Tasks of RBO Coordinators. He also gave some updates on various RBOs. Additionally, TCD Arlene L. Flores discussed on the Extension in the Future: RBOs as an Entry Point of Support in the Interventions of the DA.</p> <p>The activity was conducted virtually via Zoom application attended by 17 AEWs/RBO Coordinators and their alternates on March 30-31, 2021.</p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>		<p>Learning and agreements noted were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For AEWs/RBO Coordinators to update and submit to ATI-RTC CAR the existing organizations in their areas of responsibility using the ATI-ISO Form; 2. For AEWs to encourage these organizations to register to either DOLE, SEC, DTI and have their organization be accredited by the DA-RFO; 3. To conduct refresher course on the Proposed Training Programs for RBO Coordinators; 4. For LGU AEWS/RBO Coordinators to conduct capability building trainings for their clients, the farmers and fisher folks thru their organizations, with ATI to fund the basics like the supplies, materials, meals and venue <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>“Thank you for this Orientation and for presenting the different Proposed Training Programs that can be availed by the RBO Coordinators and for RBOs as well. We are happy to know that we can now implement our action plans for our clients with our partnership and support from ATI-CAR. Also, we as RBO Coordinators will now be able to implement our action plans direct to our clients. This is a new and very good methodology, unlike before that we are not sure if our actions plans will be funded and implemented. Thank you very much.” Ms. Nida Organo, Senior Agriculturist, OMAG-LGU, La Trinidad, Benguet)</i></p>
	<p>Consultation</p>	<p>JOINT DA-ATI-CAR and DA-RFO-CAR CONSULTATION MEETING WITH PARTNER LGUS FOR CY 2021-2022 for Organic Agriculture, HVCDP and COC Program– March 9-11, 2021</p> <p>The joint DA-ATI-CAR and DA-RFO-CAR Banner Programs Consultative Meeting and Planning with its partners in the grassroots is a yearly activity, conducted during the first quarter of the year. Partners are the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of the Local Government Units (LGUs) which play an important role in the successful implementation of programs and projects of the Banner Programs work plans. They are the front liners, recognized as efficient and productive partners in organizing and implementing the programs and projects that help address the Departments’ issues and concerns. The effectiveness of the delivery of extension services and projects, then are largely dependent on these partners.</p> <p>This yearly consultation activity served as convergence point to harmonize all agricultural extension interventions of both the DA-ATI-CAR and DA-RFO-CAR with the partner LGUs. It also aimed to provide program updates, gather feedbacks and come up with harmonized plans and targets for 2021-2022 that are aligned with the program thrusts and priorities of the Department of Agriculture.</p> <p>Further, with the issues on travel restrictions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic where face to face meeting is limited, the said activities were conducted online by province clustered into three (3) (Cluster I - Abra, Baguio, Benguet – March 9, Cluster II – Ifugao and Mt. Province – March 10, and Cluster III – Apayao and Kalinga – March 11. Virtual consultation meeting was done in partnership with the Provincial Agriculturists and Municipal Agriculturist in the provinces and municipalities at the Aspulan Hall, DA-ATI-CAR, La Trinidad, Benguet.</p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Consultation</p>	<p>Discussions/ Agreements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JOINT DA-ATI-CAR AND DA-RFO-CAR HVCDP CONSULTATION/HARMONIZATION MEETING WITH STAKEHOLDERS/PARTNER LGUS -39 participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Starting 2021, DA-ATI will start to operationalize, mobilize partner LGUs to be the one to conduct the training for farmer clientele. ATI will slowly be doing away with the proposal-based but we will be focusing more on what is identified or indicated in the programs. In this case, the trainings will be funded by DA-ATI and will be officially communicate to the LGU offices and to the Mayors about the arrangement to formalize the activity. ✓ Training on GAP Inspection – Batch 1 for AEWs of Abra and Benguet scheduled March 23-25 was moved to April 2021 since it is their provincial planning activity for the AEWs of Benguet. ✓ All presented LSA applicants under the different Banner Commodities are still for field validation as per procedure and guidelines. The certification of learning site is subject to the result of field validation, availability of funds and most importantly, it is in the work plans. ✓ ATI to send pre-paid load card for those official participants ✓ During the RFO and ATI harmonization, for specialized training on GAP for potato and strawberry production for cluster organizations, RFO to identify and invite the participants 2. JOINT DA-ATI-CAR AND DA-RFO-CAR OA CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS -48 participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ms. Joan Agrong of Sadanga is requesting if they can also be included in the Training on the Operation of Composting Facilities. Ms. Balingan replied that the identified municipalities are actually those who were recipients of composting facilities from BSWM. However, the request was noted and to be feedback to the OA focal of ATI. 3. CORN AND CASSAVA PROGRAM CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS-44 participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ms. Eva Acosta of OPAG-Mt. Province asked on the requirements for LSA application particularly on Corn are. It was detailed that the farmer should be very much willing to become a farmer extensionist, has basic facilities, with farming technology practice in Corn to share to other farmers, and with sizable production area on corn. Having all these, the farmer can already submit an application letter that he/she is willing and can be endorsed also by the LGUs if they see that this farmer is qualified to be a help to encourage other farmers in the locality. ✓ Mr. Marvin of Pinukpuk, Kalinga clarified if there are really two (2) Corn FFS to be conducted in their locality. It was remarked that according to DA-RFO-CAR, there is a correction regarding on the conduct of the FFS. The two (2) FFS is allocated for Pinukpuk, Kalinga and Conner, Apayao.



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Consultation</p>	<p>STAKEHOLDERS MEETING ON SPECIAL CONCERNS (LGU PARTNERSHIP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND DIFFERENTLY-ABLED PERSONS)</p> <p>One of the objectives of the Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Act (AFMA) is to improve the quality of life of all sectors. Furthermore, Section 17 (Special Concern) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 8435 states that “the Department shall consider the areas of concern, among others in the formulation of the Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Plan (AFMP).” One special concern is on handicapped persons and senior citizens. Moreover, under the General Appropriations Act for FY 2019, Sec. 32 states that all agencies of the government shall formulate plans, programs and project intended to address the concerns of senior citizens and persons with disability, insofar as it relates to their mandated function and integrate the same in their regular activities. With this, the Center conducted consultation with stakeholders on the areas of their concerns where Training and Extension can cover. Also, the activity served as an avenue to lay a road map and/or prepare a curriculum for the PWDs and Senior Citizens to address their needs on training and extension.</p> <p>One highlight of the activity was the presentation of the rationale and orientation of the participants on the Special Concerns interventions of ATI-CAR from 2012-2020. The rationale of the activity focused on the roles of the Center in supporting the senior citizens and PWDs in so far that it relates to its mandates. The Centers’ interventions to them were presented to have a glimpse of how extension supported them. Also, the 2021 WFP on special concerns was presented as the basis for the identification and targeting by the province. Discussions were:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="585 763 2354 1266"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="585 763 752 803">PROVINCE</th> <th data-bbox="752 763 2354 803">REMARK</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="585 803 752 966">Mt. Province</td> <td data-bbox="752 803 2354 966">Ms. Victoria Tabora of Mt. Province gave a brief background of the the activities of the Senior Citizens of Mt Province and their training needs for the year. She identified three (3), including Training on sugarcane processing, Sericulture, and Cacao Production Agreement: With the three (3) identified training needs, they prioritized the training on sugarcane processing since there is already existing equipment to be used. 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Their communication is also challenged given the geographical location of the province where the signal is unstable. With this, they cannot identify yet their training needs and determine the schedule of the senior citizens and PWDs of the province. However, she said that she will be presenting the highlights of the discussion to their Federation President and PWDs and will be sending their final agreements after.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This was actively attended by 11 participants on March 26, 2021. Benguet, Ifugao and Kalinga were not able to attend.</p>	PROVINCE	REMARK	Mt. Province	Ms. Victoria Tabora of Mt. Province gave a brief background of the the activities of the Senior Citizens of Mt Province and their training needs for the year. 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<p>Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p>Learning Site for Agriculture (LSAs)</p>	<p>LSA ENHANCEMENT</p> <p>Agriculture and Fishery (AF) Extension is central to growth and development of the agriculture and fishery sectors, hence, managing its extension services is crucial in empowering the farmers to have the competitive edge.</p> <p>The Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), as the Extension Support, Education, and Training Services (ESETS) arm of the Department of Agriculture (DA), is responsible for conceptualizing training and extension modalities and innovations. Development and utilization of Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) is one innovative extension modality conceptualized by ATI where farmers and other participants interested to learn agriculture are brought for actual experience/ hands-on training to complement classroom training. Further, the government through the DA-ATI, has funds allocated for interventions through its modality, the LSA, covering its establishment and continuous development support.</p> <p>Thus, two (2) LSA's were enhanced this month. Based on the assessment undertaken, these LSA's needs expansion and improvement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seanlyn Garden, OA Integrated Farm located in Cadian, Topdac, Atok, Benguet owned by Ms. Judith S. Fianza <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - one of the LSA on Natural Farming Practices developed and utilized as venue for hands-on training for its training participants. - The owner proposed for a comfortable lodge for visitors/trainee - <i>Php 50,000 – DA-TI-CAR counterpart</i> 2. Fit and Fab Farm – Urban Agriculture Farm located in Lucnab, Baguio City owned by Ms. Margareta D. Joseph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The owner proposed for the establishment of Protected Farming Facility (Nursery). The project helps in waste management as it promotes the utilization of wastewater as irrigation and organic kitchen wastes as compost/ fertilizer as it also aims to increase the number of urban garden practitioners in the city. It also intensifies environment protection, preservation, conservation, and replenishment of dwindling resources through organic agricultural farming practices. -<i>Php 100,000 - DA-TI-CAR counterpart</i> <p>LSA's obligations are to implement the approved expansion/improvement plan within 3 months upon issue of materials/cash, submit completion report, and continue with responsibilities as indicated in the establishment MOA.</p> <p>For the DA-ATI-CAR, obligations are to monitor the implementation of the improvement/ expansion plan and ensure fulfillment of the responsibilities of LSA indicated in the establishment MOA.</p>



PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p>
Expanding Partnerships Along the Value Chain Through Advisory Services (Advise)	Farm Business Advisory Services	This month, there were 18 queries responded. Queries included inquiry on LSA (1); mushroom (1); FRC (1); Bio-Security (1); availability of slot for training on March 24 regarding the activity <i>Youth in Support to Women's Month</i> (12); SOA (1); goat raising; and mango production (1).
Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services (Disseminate)	Information dissemination through online media platforms	<p>DA-ATI-CAR intensified its online promotions with 15 posts in social media. Uploads were on Women's Month (3); DA-ATI-CAR Staff Development (1); GAD activity (2); Urban Agriculture Program IEC (1); Online Webinar on Bantay ASF (1); Joint RFO Harmonization (1); Disposal (1); Parapad Youth on Urban Gardening (1); Brgy ASF Trng (1); Announcement on RAS (2), and Quail Egg (1).</p> <p>With the 15 uploads, there were 18,650 individuals reached and 2,128 page views.</p>
	Development and distribution of quality Knowledge Products (KPs)	<p>Techno-based KP Developed</p> <p>2 KPs were developed this month. The KPs developed were Corn-Livestock Integrated Farming System and Pinuneg.</p> <p>KP Reproduced and Distributed</p> <p>This month, 3,430 copies of print materials were reproduced and distributed. KP distributed were on <i>Gabay sa Makabagong Pagpapalayan, Oriental Herbal Nutrient (OHN), Lactic Acid Bacteria Serum (LABS), Fish Amino Acid (FAA), Calcium Phosphate (CalPhos) Animal Bone, Calcium (Eggshell and edible shells), Fermented Fruit Juice (FFJ), Fermented Plant Juice (FPJ), Indigenous Micro Organisms (IMO), Tomato Plant Extract, Ginger or Turmeric Extract, Hot Pepper and Lemon Grass Extracts, Natural Attractants for Flying Insects and Butterflies, Insecticidal Plants, Fungicidal Plants, Urban Gardening, Pechay Production, Bean Production, Upland Kangkong, Zucchini Production, Lettuce Production, Simple Composting, Bin Composting, Container Gardening, Designing an Edible Landscape, Agsagana ken Agalibtak ti Panangatipa iti Panagwaras ti ASF, How to Raise Organic Small Ruminants for Food and Profit, and Pag-aalaga ng Free Range Layer Chicken.</i></p> <p>Corporate Materials Developed</p> <p>The DA-ATI-CAR CY 2020 Annual Report was developed this month.</p> <p>Knowledge Products Popularized</p> <p>KP popularized was on CALCIUM (eggshell and edible shells) that was translated to Iloco version.</p>
	Documentation of good agricultural and fishery practices	<p>Success Stories Published</p> <p>This month's success story was on the <i>"La Trinidad's ALTOPA: Showcasing Community Urban Agriculture in the Highlands"</i></p>
	Establishment of AFE information systems	<p>Database developed</p> <p>5 databases are being maintained (Farmers' Information and Technology Services Center (FITSC) Database, Magsasakang Siyentista (MS) Databases, Library Materials, and CAR Agricultural Profiles).</p>



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<p>Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)</p>	<p>Learning and Development</p>	<p>1st Quarter Staff Development for CY 2021: Training on Conducting Webinars and Online Trainings</p> <p>The ATI is mandated to lead the training and extension of the agriculture sector. Despite the lockdown and restrictions, extension services need to be delivered to its intended clients and stakeholders. The unforeseen effects of the pandemic have caught the staff unprepared with the skill in conducting or facilitating virtual activities using the different online media platforms that are available. With this, one of the identified needs of the ATI-CAR staff is to be capacitated on the different virtual applications to still be able to extend its services.</p> <p>This training aimed that DA-ATI-CAR staff will be equipped with necessary skills to continually provide extension services in these challenging situations. This skill is necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of the online training and extension programs of the institute. The resource person throughout the activity was Ms. Julie Ann D. Tabdi, Computer Maintenance Technologist I, from the Benguet State University. Topics discussed were technical and hardware requirements; technology and tools available, platform capabilities, preparations in conducting virtual meeting using different platform, facilitating and managing the virtual meeting.</p> <p>The activity was actively participated by 38 staff on March 2-3, 2021 at the Aspulan Hall, ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet.</p> <p><i>Impressions:</i></p> <p><i>“At first, it was very overwhelming especially when Ma’am Julie showed the different functions and I was thinking how to manipulate all of these. I was at ease from my anxiety when she explained how to manipulate the application step by step. As I also observed, one reason why we withheld attending online webinars is because of our fear on how to manipulate these online platforms. But now, we can book the webinars we are eyeing for.” – Mr. Ian Jade Watawat, PMESU Support Staff</i></p> <p><i>“I thought as an Admin staff, this training is not that applicable for me but we never knew we could use this in the future. They expected us, millennials, to have an advance knowledge on online platforms but we really needed to learn more. Thank you to the management who initiated this kind of training.” - Ms. Bernadette De Guzman, Admin Aide VI</i></p>



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<p>Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)</p>	<p>Performance Assessment</p>	<p>ExPAND Project Review: Livelihood Support to 4th – 6th Class Municipalities, February 25-26, 2021, Kamog, Sablan, Benguet</p> <p>In 2018, the Agricultural Training Institute operationalized the Extension Program for Agri-Fisheries and National Development (ExPAND) intended to provide catalytic financing for agriculture and fisheries. It has two (2) major components in the local guideline crafted which are training and sustainability support and the livelihood support to 4th-6th class municipalities. The latter has funded the project proposed by the Kamog Sablan Credit Cooperative (KSCC) with 35 beneficiaries which aims to enhance their farming business in response to climate change.</p> <p>Of the 35 beneficiaries, 20 of them ventured on their greenhouse establishment and greenhouse repair; 11 on pig pen establishment for natural swine farming; three (3) on Farm improvement towards GAP certification and one (1) on citrus production. The project started its implementation on May 2018 until December 2018. However, with the delay of procurement of materials to be used, the project was extended until June of 2019.</p> <p>With the limitations to travel and mass gathering, the activity will be in coordination with the LGU-OMAg-Sablan. Hence, a farm visit was used as a methodology where farmers need not to gather in one place but instead will be individually visited by the OMAg staff. The project review was assisted by Mr. Rony Carlos and Ms. Rimalyn Benito.</p> <p>General issues and concerns;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No water during summer for the greenhouses • Insufficient capital (cash and manpower, labor) • The use of concoctions is partially in place, most farmers still depends on feeds • Insufficient recording system. They have records, but not complete • Cutflowers were not 100% sold due to closure of cemetery caused by this pandemic. All cut flower farmers affected. For the cut flowers sold price is low from October 14 to present. • Pest and diseases were still encountered to radus and Jimba which cause low quality of the produce. • During ECQ ExPAND beneficiaries encountered low price of vegetables especially the romaine lettuce.



PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p>						
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Monitoring Activities	<p>FIELD MONITORING OF COMMUNITY URBAN AGRICULTURE MODEL FARMS IN AMBIONG (ALTOPA AND PARAPAD AMBIONG YOUTH ORGANIZATION – STATUS OF PROJECT– March 5, 2021</p> <p>To ensure continuous food production in both rural and urban areas, the DA-ATI-CAR provided financial and training assistance to qualified organization for the establishment of learning site and demonstration areas, included Parapad Youth Ambiong Organization (PAYO) and Ambiong La Trinidad Organic Practitioner Association (ALTOPA). The Php 100,000.00 financial assistance provided by the Center was intended for basic farm inputs like seeds, farm tools, and greenhouses.</p> <p>For the case of PAYO, the amount was expended for the installation of nursery greenhouse for sustainable production of seedlings, vegetables, herbs, spices, root crops, and others. The communal garden will serve as learning avenue for the youth members of the organization, while showcasing urban gardening technologies in the community. At present, the nursery greenhouse project is currently planted with leafy vegetables.</p> <p>As to the status of the ALTOPA Urban Agriculture Model Garden, it is also currently planted with various leafy vegetables such as crucifers, lettuces of various kinds, spinach legumes, herbs, carrots, sugar beets, and others. Members had been sustaining the farm and practices crop programming for sustainability. Their produce is being sold in the local market, MLGU La Trinidad, and La Organica display center, Part of the project is production of vegetable seedlings for sale among the members and within the community.</p> <p>The monitoring was conducted by Ms. Cristine Esnara, PASS Head, Mr. Charlie Sagudan, OIC TCS-I and TCD Arlene L. Flores. After the monitoring, the Launching Celebration of ALTOPA Urban Agriculture Model Garden took place.</p>						
		<p>UPDATE OF LUNA APAYAO ORGANIC PRACTITIONERS’ ASSOCIATION (LAOPA) – March 26, 2021</p> <p>Generally, all the practitioners are improving and strongly committed to OA farming. They have strong adoption to OA technologies and their farms were intensified and have followed the integrated approach. There were also problems encountered as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="593 1149 2417 1334"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="593 1149 1510 1188">PROBLEM/ISSUE</th> <th data-bbox="1510 1149 2417 1188">RECOMMENDATION</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="593 1188 1510 1260">1. ICS committee have inadequate knowledge and lack behavioral drivers to perform their functions on farm inspection</td> <td data-bbox="1510 1188 2417 1260">Need improvement on system of OA farm inspection operation through improving their internal quality inspection</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="593 1260 1510 1295">2. Not enough nutrient inputs (compost and molasses)</td> <td data-bbox="1510 1260 2417 1295">Initiate some other intervention for soil amendments</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="593 1295 1510 1334">3. Lack of mobility during farm inspection and monitoring</td> <td data-bbox="1510 1295 2417 1334">Need financial support from other members of the association as a whole</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Monitored by Mr. Charlie C. Sagudan, OA Focal Person.</p>	PROBLEM/ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	1. ICS committee have inadequate knowledge and lack behavioral drivers to perform their functions on farm inspection	Need improvement on system of OA farm inspection operation through improving their internal quality inspection	2. Not enough nutrient inputs (compost and molasses)	Initiate some other intervention for soil amendments
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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Monitoring Activities	UPDATE ON THE LEARNING SITES ESTABLISHED UNDER THE LIVESTOCK PROGRAM IN 2020 – March 26, 2021			
		Under the Livestock Program, there were 3 LSA's established in 2020. Each farm was given an amount of Php 300,000.00 for farm development.			
		Updates from these LSA's were:			
		ANAEM FARM in Tuba, Benguet	MAQUERA INTEGRATED FARM in Luna, Apayao	CAWAGDAN INTEGRATED FARM in Lamut, Ifugao	
		-proposal was on holding area with comfort room accomplished in September 2020 and additional stocks were purchased with incubator in November	-proposed project was on holding area, and as of the date of monitoring, the holding area is almost done, and waits for the connection of electricity	-the holding area and farm biosecurity triage area are expected to be on the last week of March. The water tank is ready for installation.	
-farm has already expanded in layer production	-engaged in poultry (ducks, chicken, geese production, sheep, goat, and cattle production)	-main commodity is free range chicken production			
-2 trainings were already conducted in the farm (Seminar on Natural Farming System and Training on Animal Production (Poultry-Chicken) with NCII)	-farm landscaping is also on-going				
One issue raised was very stringent process to get permit to buy lumbers from DENR for the establishment of holding area and other farm facilities.					
The online monitoring was conducted by Ms. Maribeth M. Ladu-an, Livestock Program Focal Person.					



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FOCUSED/PRIORITY PROGRAMS																		
OTHER PROGRAMS/SPECIAL PROJECTS																		
Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund - Rice Extension Services Program (RCEF-RESP)	Monitoring Activities	<p>The Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSAs) that were established and enhanced under the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) shall serve as the venues of the Farmers Field School (FFS) on the Production of High-Quality Inbred Rice Seeds. These rice-based LSAs became registered Farm Schools under TESDA to offer intensive training to farmers on the most current rice farming system through the FFS. To complement the program, four batches of training of trainers were conducted to capacitate trainers and facilitators who will assist in its implementation. Thus, DA-ATI-CAR conducted a field monitoring simultaneous to the RCEF-RESP quick survey to assess the progress of its implementation. Table below presents the updates from the RCEF LSAs.</p>																
		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="585 565 824 591" style="text-align: left;">NAME OF FARM</th> <th data-bbox="824 565 2422 591" style="text-align: left;">STATUS/ UPDATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="585 591 824 766"> 1. BACAYAN'S RICE-BASED INTEGRATED FARM </td> <td data-bbox="824 591 2422 766"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Managed by Mr. Micahel Lumas-i, located in Ipil, Tabuk City, Kalinga ✓ Completed the last 2 batches of FFS allotted for 2020. The first batch was conducted last September 7-December 7, 2020 followed by the second batch which started on December 14, 2020 and ended last March 1, 2021. Each of the batch accommodated 50 slots ✓ There are seven active trainers at the Bacayan's Farm, two of these were graduates of the 2019 training of trainers. ✓ The three-story building funded under the RCEF was already completed. Supplemental budget from the 2019 FFS were utilized to expand the building and its facilities. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="585 766 824 857"> 2. GREEN VALLEY FARM </td> <td data-bbox="824 766 2422 857"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Managed by Mr. Johnny Carillo, located in Rizal, Kalinga ✓ Utilized the 200 scholarship slots allotted for them for 2020 (100 per farm) ✓ Has an on-going training hall expansion which will include a conference hall and bedrooms. It further serves as benchmark for farmers. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="585 857 824 961"> 3. DBM AGRICULTURAL FARM SCHOOL </td> <td data-bbox="824 857 2422 961"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Managed by Mr. Danilo B. Manuel, located in Babalag East, Rizal, Kalinga ✓ Utilized the 200 scholarship slots allotted for them for 2020 (100 per farm) </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="585 961 824 1065"> 4. DUMAGAY'S INTEGRATED FARM </td> <td data-bbox="824 961 2422 1065"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Managed by Mr. Bonifacio Q. Dumagay, located in Pinukupuk, Kalinga ✓ Being a newly established LSA, it is yet to complete the construction of its training hall to cater classroom learning sessions. The building is estimated to be 30% complete which was funded under the RCEF (Php 150,000). ✓ Currently processing its registration with TESDA in preparation of the farm's implementation of the FFS. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="585 1065 824 1247"> 5. JACOB'S FARM </td> <td data-bbox="824 1065 2422 1247"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Managed by Mr. Keneth Jacob, located in Namnama, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao ✓ Yielded 90 farmer graduates for year 2020. 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PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p>								
Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries and Extension Services	Meeting	<p>Meeting on the Conduct of the Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA)</p> <p>This meeting was conducted to have a clear understanding of the Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) guidelines and be clarified on the tasks. In attendance were DA-RFO-CAR Team, Benguet State University (BSU) Research Team, LGU-Benguet Team, ATI-CO and ATI-CAR Team. ATI-CO Deputy Director Rosana Mula provided an orientation of the RRA where she mentioned to work with the LGUs because they know their clients better, use secondary data available in the LGUs, DA, and BSU, and focus on the peculiarity of Benguet in gathering data.</p> <p>Another agendum undertaken was the presentation of the BSU Work and Financial Plan (WFP) where 5 staff were involved for the research team. Ongoing activities were the finalization and signing of the MOA, hiring of 6 science research assistants, procurement of equipment and supplies, and finalization of data gathering tools. Concerns/clarifications on the implementation of RRA were also noted as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="588 659 2417 972"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="588 659 1148 695">CONCERN/CLARIFICATION</th> <th data-bbox="1148 659 2417 695">RESPONSE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="588 695 1148 730">Extension of Project Duration</td> <td data-bbox="1148 695 2417 730">The project can be extended due to the effect of pandemic but not until September</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="588 730 1148 870">Hiring of research assistant</td> <td data-bbox="1148 730 2417 870">DA-RFO-CAR OIC Director Cameron Odsey said that BSU can utilize the Mentoring and Attracting Youth in Agribusiness (MAYA) interns to save on resources. These interns will be provided a working space at the BSU Extension Office and a write shop and levelling off will be conducted to assure that there will be quality result. A matrix was also provided to help the research team.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="588 870 1148 972">Secondary Data</td> <td data-bbox="1148 870 2417 972">Request letters were disseminated to collect secondary data to be turned over to BSU. It was agreed that BSU will present their own analysis basing from the secondary sources they have gathered.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The orientation with the LGUs is scheduled on the 3rd week of April.</p>	CONCERN/CLARIFICATION	RESPONSE	Extension of Project Duration	The project can be extended due to the effect of pandemic but not until September	Hiring of research assistant	DA-RFO-CAR OIC Director Cameron Odsey said that BSU can utilize the Mentoring and Attracting Youth in Agribusiness (MAYA) interns to save on resources. These interns will be provided a working space at the BSU Extension Office and a write shop and levelling off will be conducted to assure that there will be quality result. A matrix was also provided to help the research team.	Secondary Data	Request letters were disseminated to collect secondary data to be turned over to BSU. It was agreed that BSU will present their own analysis basing from the secondary sources they have gathered.
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***LGU conducted activities with no report yet will be included in the MNR for April*

Prepared by:

BRANDY K. LAOYAN
 M & E/Designated Report Officer
 Date: April 14, 2021

Noted by:

ARLENE L. FLORES
 Center Director/Division Chief
 Date: April 14, 2021