



Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Agriculture
AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE
 ATI Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila 1100
 Tel. Nos. (63-2) 8929-8541 to 49 & 8928-7397 Fax No. (63-2) 8920-9792
 Email: ati_director@ati.da.gov.ph & ati_director@yahoo.com
 URL: http://www.ati.da.gov.ph, www.e-extension.gov.ph

MONTHLY REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
NOVEMBER | 2021

Center/Division: **RTC-CAR**

PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>TRAINER'S ASSEMBLY: 2021 CAR LGU TRAINER'S ASSEMBLY: THE ATI TRAINED LGU TRAINERS</p> <p>The Extension Service set-up in the country (<i>AFMA states that the LGUs will be responsible for direct training and extension for the farmers; the ATI, together with the DA-RFO and SUCs shall take charge of developing the LGU Extension Service</i>) led to ATI-CAR's coming up with the idea of training LGU-AEWs to become trainers in the field. So that in 2005, the ATI-CAR started to develop training programs that the LGU-AEWs can use in their work as direct extension service providers for the farmers. Phased training programs have been developed since then, generally labeled "Training of Trainers (TOTs)" for specific subject areas. These LGU trainers have always been ATI's partners in providing extension services to the farmers. This is also an opportunity to recognize their efforts in reaching out to those in need in the rural areas.</p> <p>This year, with the challenges in mobility and restrictions to face to face trainings and the ATI trained LGU trainers held on stronger for the delivery of extension services. The implementation in the LGU level were made possible through the ATI and LGU partnership. This activity was programmed to recognize performing trainers on field as well as provide input in the training curriculum of AEWs for CY 2022. This is in preparation for the full implementation of the EO No 138 or the Full Devolution of Certain Functions of the Executive Branch to Local Governments, Creation of a Committee on Devolution, and for Other Purposes.</p> <p>The assembly was conducted via virtual on November 25, actively attended by 29 participants.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Thank you very much ATI Cordillera, headed by sir Charlie C. Sagudan for this regional award. I really didn't expect for this, all I know is I served the A&F sector the best I could in spite of all the challenges. For my LGU Villaviciosa Abra and OMAG Villaviciosa family, we continue to work as one and create changes in our clientele's lives. Maraming Salamat."</i> Dr. Hermina Bolaoit, MA-Villaviciosa, Abra</p> <p><i>"Every planned activity been delivered very satisfactory because of the well-managed flow of activities undertaken. It's good also that internet connection was very cooperative as well as the online platform being used which is the Zoom app. Thanks ATI-CAR Family for the successful assembly and also to our co-trainers who attended. God bless us all."</i> Engr. Salvador Vargas, OAS-Apayao</p>

ATI Date: **DEC 12 2021**



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>TRAINING ON MEAT PROCESSING WITH GMP FOR RBO MEMBERS AND OFFICERS - BATCH 3</p> <p>Meat is very susceptible to spoilage due to chemical and enzymatic activities. The breakdown of fat, protein, and carbohydrates of meat result in the development of off odors, off-flavor and slim formation which make the meat objectionable for human consumption. Several factors such as moisture, light, microbes, atmospheric oxygen, temperature, and endogenous enzymes influence the freshness of shelf life of meat, hence the need for processing. Processing involves taking the meat in its raw form and turning it into another product that is marketable, safe for consumption, and attractive to consumers.</p> <p>On November 17-19, a training on meat processing was undertaken by 20 farmers in Aspulan Hall, DA-ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet. This three-day training generally sought to develop participants' skills in processing meat, applying the GMP for home consumption and livelihood.</p> <p>During the training, participants disclosed that although they are already aware and familiar with the basic procedures in meat processing, still there were additional information and learnings that they were unaware of which they learned during the actual demonstration. How to do innovations applying trial and error was also encouraged. Participants were able to do hands-on or return demonstrations on the recipes that were presented and demonstrated. They are also willing to share what they learned to other members of their organization and also in their community believing that this can help them augment their family income in case they plan to venture into meat processing business.</p> <p>Melchor S. Lumiked, Instructor I, Ms. Cynthia D. Garambas, Associate Professor I, Ms. Abeneil N. Yogyog, Instructor I, and Ms. Harriette G. Santos, Faculty Member from the Benguet State University (BSU), served as resource speakers during the activity</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"At first, we are not interested to join this training because we are very busy in our own homes, but due to curiosity, we attended. With the outcome of the training, we are happy that we came and we don't have any regrets because we learned a lot and enjoyed all the activities." – Ms. Rose M. Milgar-P4MP Buguias, Benguet</i></p> <p><i>"It is nice to join trainings like this because with the learnings and knowledge shared to us through their lectures, we can also develop our skills especially in cooking that we can share and also use to earn a living." – Mr. Marilo S. Bakkangen- RIC Sablan, Benguet</i></p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT ON THE OPERATIONS OF COMPOSTING FACILITIES FOR BIODEGRADABLE WASTES (CFBW) BATCH 3</p> <p>In support to the DA's Plant Plant Plant Program for Food Production in rural areas, the BSWM-Organic Agriculture Program (OAP), under the National Organic Agriculture Program (NOAP) of the Department of Agriculture (DA) implemented by the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM), has launched a massive series of Capacity Enhancement on the Operations and Maintenance of Composting Facility for Biodegradable Waste of which objective is to recycle market and agricultural waste to produce organic compost fertilizer for rice and corn and high-value crops in support to DA's Food Security measure under the present pandemic situation. This facility aims to recycle market wastes to be incorporated as biomass and mixed with other organic materials such as animal manure, rice straw, sawdust, plant fiber and others. A good quality compost fertilizer is produced due to its sweet earthy smell and not pungent as odor is eliminated because of the application of composting fluid.</p> <p>35 participants completed this training conducted on November 16-18 in Tabuk City, Kalinga. Topics discussed included: <i>Advantages of composting, Compost ingredients or substrates, Electric Consumption, Features, specifications and advantages of CFBW, Procedures and how to's in CFBW's and Health and safety measures, Project components of CFBW, Protocols and guidelines relative to CFBW implementation, Proper care and maintenance, Troubleshooting/ minor repair of CFBW Equipment and Vermicomposting, monitoring tools, Monitoring Process, Hands-on practicum on the operations of the CFBW.</i></p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Advocating Organic Agriculture here in our area is a little bit challenging since various questions will be thrown to you if you will educate your fellows. This training broadens my knowledge and gave me an idea that there are available facilities in processing our biodegradable waste. With this training I can influence my fellow farmers to promote Organic Agriculture since there are a lot of interventions to be utilized in processing such materials. To our speakers and facilitators, thank you for this activity and I look forward to another training with all of you".</i> Ms. Rachel D. Maling, Farm Owner-Mansaja-aw Eco Farm</p> <p><i>"I would like to express my special thanks to the ATI-CAR and the Bureau of Soils and Water. Management for this training. In this activity I was able to learn many things regarding organic agriculture. I would like to encourage the participants to apply and share what we have learned during our training. We are so lucky enough that we have these kinds of innovations or facilities available in our area."</i> Ms. Chanda L. Gaano, Staff- Municipal Agriculture Office of Tanudan"</p>





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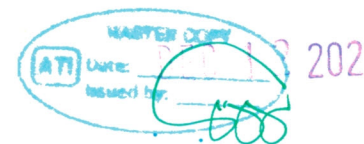
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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>FARM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT FOR EXTENSION MODALITIES (CUAMF-TINPO)</p> <p>In 2019, the DA-ATI-CAR Partnership and Accreditation Services Section (PASS) conducted a Training Needs Survey (TNS) and it showed that the Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA's) and School for Practical Agriculture (SPA's) need to be capacitated on Entrepreneurship and Product Development. Further, as per guidelines, ATI shall provide continuous capability building interventions for LSAs and SPAs in the form of training, coaching, exposure to various learning activities such as field visits/ educational tours, farmer exchange programs, seminars, conferences, congresses, conventions and other learning modalities. Hence, this training for CUAMF conducted on November 16-18 in Binga Heritage Site, Tinongdan, Itogon, Benguet, aimed that the participants shall be able to innovate agricultural enterprises in their farms applying the entrepreneurial competencies.</p> <p>Three (3) modules were discussed during the training: <i>Module 1: Introduction to Farm Entrepreneurship, Module 2: Unlocking One's Entrepreneurship Competencies, and Module 3: Matching the Person with the Farm Enterprise Project.</i> As an output of the training, participants identified a re-entry plan on basic improvement they like to do in their farm enterprise based on entrepreneurial insights and attitudes which may positively impact their present operation.</p> <p>Completed by 22 farmer participants.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"This is very significant for us students at the same time engage in small-scale farming. The principles taught are very much applicable to our daily life and when we begin to engage in converting our farm into an enterprise. The seminar is exciting and I have learned new lessons that I never came across before. It challenges me to strive harder to start up a living from farming."</i> Mr. Marjhun Sotero, Farmer</p> <p><i>"We learned a lot because you taught us II how to be a successful agri-preneur. Now I learned how to achieve my goal, manage my time, know the competencies and mostly to save money. I also learned how to calculate ROI through the Darts game. Thank you to our speakers and the facilitators, the Agricultural Training Institute for funding this training."</i></p>





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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>BASIC TRAINING ON OPEN-POLLINATED VARIETY CORN SEED PRODUCTION AND CERTIFICATION</p> <p>The corn industry in the Philippines consists of white and yellow. White corn is used as food, and yellow corn, on the other hand, is an essential ingredient of feeds for hogs, poultry, and fish. White corn is for food, and yellow corn, on the other hand, is an essential ingredient of feeds for hogs, poultry, and fish. The demand and productivity of white corn as food are relatively flat.</p> <p>To increase food sufficiency in the country, the Department of Agriculture aims to produce more corn this year and raise the country's corn sufficiency rate to 58 percent. In support of this, the Corn Banner Program of the DA-RFO-CAR targeted 1,330 bags of certified Open Pollinated Variety (OPV) corn seeds under its Corn Seeds Assistance Productivity Enhancement and Model Farm Projects. However, the Corn Program foresee that it cannot achieve the volume targeted due to the lack of active corn seed growers in the region. There are 24 accredited corn seed growers; however, not all are active. In addition, there are farmers in CAR who want to engage in corn seed production. To ensure farmers' access to high-quality seeds through training of new seed growers, the DA-RFO-CAR partnered with the BPI-NSQCS-CAR and the DA-ATI-CAR for this training.</p> <p>This was attended by 28 participants wherein they were expected to practice and adopt production protocols needed to apply for accreditation as corn seed growers. It was conducted virtually in Alfonso Lista, Ifugao; Bangued, Abra; Tabuk City, Kalinga; Flora, Apayao on November 15-19, 2021.</p> <p><i>Impressions:</i></p> <p><i>"This OPV, it needs extra effort unlike the yellow corn that is why we are grateful to the management team for this training. We learned a lot, from leadership to the management of corn. We were updated of the technologies. We are also grateful to BPI for teaching us how to do seed sampling and other techniques on collecting corn samples. In the process if being a certified seed grower, it has a long process and new hope that BPI will be there to help and assist us. With these learning, I hope I can improve my production to produce quality seeds. Again, thank you to the training team!"</i> Mr. Redentor Butic, Farmer from Tabuk City, Kalinga</p> <p><i>"Thank you for giving me this opportunity to extend my gratitude for giving us this training. We are long time corn farmers but we still learned a lot of technologies that we can adopt. If not for this training, we would be stock in our old farming practices like using 3 to 5 seeds per hill while in fact we can use 1 seed per hill with 1 ft planting distance for better quality of harvest. In rouging, it should be done at the earlier stage of the crop to avoid competition in food, this will again result to better quality of yield. Again, thank you all.</i> Ms. Juliana Batino – Lagangilang, Abra</p>





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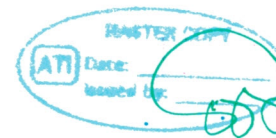
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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>TRAINING ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE-INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM (OA-ICS), PHASE 2 FOR BPOPA, NOLPPA, SOFA, AND BOLFA</p> <p>Organic certification may be acquired either from the third-party certifying bodies or Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). Participatory Guarantee System are locally focused quality assurance systems of organic products' certification which small farmers can afford, and which provides access to healthy and safe farm products. However, an organization aiming for group certification must undergo series of Internal Control System (ICS) Procedures which includes the development of OA-ICS Manual.</p> <p>The 4-day training gave an avenue for the participants to be able to come up with their draft manual of operations. With this, the training management team and the participants agreed that if there are parts of the manual that were not finished the participants will continue it into their respective areas then provide a copy to the ATI-CAR if finalized. It was conducted on November 22-25, 2021</p> <p>Completed by 31 farmers.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Good afternoon to each and every one of us, a while ago we were thinking if what we are going to say here in front. First, is that we want to give thanks to the organizers of this event. We were able to gain additional knowledge that enabled us to consolidate the ideas unlike during the first phase of this training. To name a few is our learnings on the structuring, the risk management and others. We are hoping that this activity will not just end in this phase but it should be finished until phase 4. So that we will be able to achieve that goal to be a certified certifying body for our co-farmers. And I look forward into that, and thank you so much". Ms. Hilaria Palayao, member- NOLPA</i></p> <p><i>"Good afternoon to all of us especially to our sponsors, the ATI-CAR. In behalf of the BOLFA organization we would like to give thanks to the sponsor because aside from gaining now knowledge we were also fed with lots of foods and we were able to sleep in a soft and a nice bed. This training had showed a unity in our province because even if we came from different places with different languages, we were still able to communicate with each other. We did not let that language to be a barrier in the success of this training. As what the 1" sharer said we are also looking forward to the last LVO phase of this training. For our efforts not to be twisted and of course so that we will able to help the farmers in our respective areas. So thank you so much and have is safe trip to all of us. " Ms. Marina P. Obar Member-BOLFA</i></p>





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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>FARMERS FIELD SCHOOL FOR HEIRLOOM RICE IN SUPPORT TO THE FAO PROJECT ENTITLED "DYNAMIC CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF AGROBIODIVERSITY IN TRADITIONAL AGRO-ECOSYSTEMS OF THE PHILIPPINES (BATCH 2)</p> <p>Rice is one of 14 global food crops prioritized by Global Environmental Facility (GEF) for genetic resource conservation worldwide. Rice constitutes the staple diet of 90% of the population of the Philippines. In addition to direct consumption, it is processed into rice flour, fermented to make rice wine (tapuy) and many other delicacies. Rice by-products are used as animal feed, substrate for mushroom production and raw material for paper and particle board manufacture. Rice hulls are used as fuel and bran as animal feeds. 3.1% of the rice production in the Philippines is from traditional varieties, but in areas such as Hungduan and Hingyon municipalities in Ifugao province, 90% of the rice area is still planted to traditional varieties.</p> <p>Traditional rice is traded for other commodities. More recently, some indigenous rice varieties of the Cordillera are grown in large areas to meet the growing demand for traditional and native staples in the international market. The Revitalize Indigenous Cordilleran Entrepreneurs (RICE) was able to export 7 tons of Tinawon native rice from Ifugao and Unoy native rice from Kalinga to the United States (Cariño 2008). The Department of Agriculture through the Local Government Units had selected two traditional rice varieties from several provinces. These varieties have a market in the US because they are "heirloom" varieties and their pigmented grains are believed to possess antioxidant properties.</p> <p>Generally, the FFS aimed to enhance their knowledge and skills on the application of dynamic rice-based Agricultural Biodiversity conservation practices and their relation to cultural heritage. 20 farmers participated in this training on December 18, 2020 to November 5, 2021 at Maggok, Hungduan, Ifugao.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"The training is very much appreciated. I was able to learn how to make fertilizer out of grasses. I also learn how to conduct proper land preparation. This is one of the training that we need as farmers "Hituwe di oha an training an kasapulan mi, maphod ta imali da". The knowledge and skills imparted to us will be practice by Maggok farmers. Thank you very much for this training."</i> - Ms. Junia Tuguinay, Farmer, Maggok, Hungduan, Ifugao</p> <p><i>"This is one of the trainings that we need, its good that we are given the chance to be a part of this. We learned how to make fertilizer using the available weeds in our place, we will not throw our weeds already but we will process it as fertilizer. As farmers we need to learn techniques in farming in order to have a higher yield. We are thankful that you came to teach us."</i> Ms. Conchita Dulawan, Farmer, Maggok, Hungduan, Ifugao</p>





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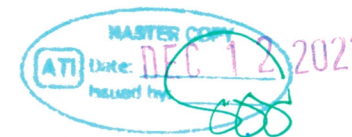
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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>TRAINING ON FARM LAYOUT, DESIGN AND LANDSCAPE</p> <p>In line with the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund-Rice Extension Services Program (RCEF-RESP) Project1: Design and delivery of training programs, this training on farm layout, design and landscape was undertaken.</p> <p>Designing and planning agricultural farms is of paramount importance, as this will result to cost-effective farming with minimal impact to or sustained ecology of a certain area. The multi-functionality of agricultural landscapes for food production, livelihood improvement, and ecosystem conservation is a management approach to meet the escalating global demands for food production and ecosystem services in the context of limited land and water resources, climate change, and widespread ecosystem degradation (Ellis et al., 2010, Foley et al., 2005). Consequently, with proper knowledge on farm planning and designing agricultural landscapes, the efficient and maximum use of available resources are guaranteed.</p> <p>23 participants completed the training conducted on November 16-18, 2021 in TAMPCO Inn and Training Center, Tabuk City, Kalinga. Generally, it aimed to enhance the knowledge, attitude and skills of selected LSA Operators. Topics discussed were Farm Planning 101, Principles of Landscape Design, Designing Agricultural Landscape, Enhancing Agricultural Landscapes with Fauna, Sustaining and Maintaining Agricultural Landscape. This was discussed by Mr. Bobby B. Tolentino, Architect/ Project Manager.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>“This training is very relevant and is a must to every farm school owner. Thank you to the different agencies, especially DA-ATI, for capacitating and convening us for another knowledge sharing activity. I really appreciated this group’s bonding. We belong to different age ranges and we share different ideas thus, making our discussions productive and complementary. Soon, I hope to visit everyone’s farm enhanced by the learnings imparted to us in this training.”</i> Bonifacio Dumagay, LSA Operator, Dumagay’s Farm-Pinukpuk, Kalinga</p> <p><i>“I was amazed by the farms I visited. Compared to my site in Ifugao, the agricultural components are unorganized. We just let things as they are as a source of food without expecting that in time, our farm will be recognized as a certified LSA. Thank you, DA-ATI, for giving us the chance and for pushing us to continually improve our farm management and operations through capability building opportunities.”</i> Fatima Argueza, LSA Representative, Macario Argueza Farm-Lamut, Ifugao.</p>





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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>ADOPT A FARM YOUTH TO LIVESTOCK LSA</p> <p>The Adopt-a-Farm Youth is designed from the Young Filipino Farmer-Leaders Training Program in Japan (YFFLTPJ). It is a learning methodology that employs the 4-H motto “<i>learning by doing</i>”. In the previous years, regional applicants of the YFFLTPJ are not fully aware of the program scheme. Since this program is designed from the YFFLTPJ, the participants through this Adopt-a Farm Youth have undergone a first-hand experience and overview of the program. It also served as benchmarking and appreciation stage to help them decide whether to continue with the YFFLTPJ program. Moreover, this one-month homestay in particular further boosted the knowledge, skills, and attitude of the participants in good agriculture practices in accordance with the industry standards. Further, it covered core competencies in the production and management of livestock, vegetables, fertilizers, and concoctions. Being the future farmers, the needs were also taught of various agriculture technologies in saving the community and humanity as a whole. Aside from the skills and practices, the young farmer-participants are expected to adopt and imbibe desirable values reflected by the host farmer. Catalytic finance to assist sustainability project may be extended to the graduates upon submission of comprehensive and sound project proposal subject to availability of funds.</p> <p>Actively completed by six young farmers. The 4-H’ers were hosted by the Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) Bontoc Dairy Farm, Caluttit, Bontoc Mt. Province. The activity officially started on October 18 until November 24, 2021. For the terminal objective it aimed that after the training, the young farmer participant will be able to practice the farming technologies employing principles of Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP).</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>“Thank you for coming to witness our Graduation, to our trainers, Agricultural Training Institute, Office of the Provincial Agriculture and Office of the Provincial Veterinary.” Mr. Romar Liwan, Young Farmer, Natonin Mt. Province</i></p> <p><i>“Thank you for this training, we developed and acquired new skills and knowledge about agriculture. I hope that there will be another training to be conducted for us youth. Thank you to the Host Team, Agricultural Training Institute, Office of the Provincial Agriculture and Office of the Provincial Veterinary. We will strive to apply all the things we have learned so that your efforts will not be wasted.” - Mr. Chester Caasi, Young Farmer, Tadian, Mt. Province</i></p>





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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>ONLINE TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON FALL ARMY WORM MANAGEMENT <i>with CPD points, November 9-12, 2021</i></p> <p>Fall Armyworm (FAW), Spodoptera frugiperda, FAW is a highly destructive pest in cereals and other essential crops. It is native to the Americas, where it has been known for several decades as an economic pest of many crop species, especially maize. FAW was first detected in West and Central Africa in early 2016. This invasive, strong-flying insect pest spread to almost all sub-Saharan Africa and other parts of the world, including the Philippines, and continues to spread.</p> <p>The rapid spread and extent of infestation by FAW is causing moderate to severe yield losses in the 44 countries where FAW has been confirmed. The rate of misuse (including overuse) of pesticides (some of which belong to the HHP group) in most countries has dramatically increased as farmers and governments panic to control the pest. However, once established in a country, FAW cannot be eliminated. It is inherently difficult to kill by pesticide sprays because of its behavior on the plant and its development of resistance - leading to repeated use and overdosing with sprays. These two linked problems can increase food insecurity, poverty, human and environmental health problems, biodiversity loss, and reduced resilience to climate change.</p> <p>In the Philippines, FAW was first detected in corn in Piat, Cagayan, and has now spread to Mindanao. Thus, the Department of Agriculture is now intensifying its strategies against FAW infestation and has adopted a FAW Integrated PEST Management protocol. It has also set a Quick Response Fund for FAW management. Being the training arm of the Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Training Institute programmed training on the Management of Fall Armyworm.</p> <p>There were 21 participants in this training conducted online on November 9-12, 2021. This training was held to help create a pool of FAW experts who can provide technical assistance to farmers in the field. Thus, this training. However, this training does not provide detailed information on corn production; instead, it emphasizes the management of FAW for corn as its preferred host plant.</p>

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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>COACHING ON URBAN AGRICULTURE/HOME GARDENING</p> <p>Last year, the DA-ATI-CAR conducted a total of 66 urban agriculture coaching activities supporting the Plant Plant Plant Program of the Department of Agriculture. 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.</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. 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. Two (2) batches were conducted under Rice Program.</p> <p><i>Table 1. Details of coaching activities conducted</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="536 767 2326 1137"> <thead> <tr> <th>TITLE</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>NO. OF PAX</th> <th>VENUE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4">RICEPROGRAM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coaching on Urban Agriculture/Home Gardening for Senior Citizens of Abra</td> <td>October 29, 2021</td> <td>24</td> <td>Villaviciosa, Abra</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coaching on Urban Agriculture/Home Gardening for PWDs of Abra</td> <td>November 11, 2021</td> <td>15</td> <td>Dolores, Abra</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coaching on Urban Agriculture/Home Gardening for residents of Tuding, Itogon, Benguet</td> <td>November 12, 2021</td> <td>32</td> <td>Itogon, Benguet</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"This program is very timely for us as senior citizens because first we are those who are restricted to go out from our homes. This shall surely help our mental health since we also have something to do at home and make our time productive. Thank you for conducting and funding this training and we hope to succeed in our home gardens so that indeed it will provide food for our table." Ms. Violeta Ruega, Retired Dep-Ed Employee</i></p> <p><i>"Natutunan ko dito kung paano natin mapalago an gating mga tanim, Maraming salamat po at itinuro nyo sa amin ang paggawa ng mga organic fertilizer ang paggamit ng natural nga pagspray. Malaking tulong poi to sa amin na mga may kapansanan" Ms. Lerma Aldaca</i></p>	TITLE	DATE	NO. OF PAX	VENUE	RICEPROGRAM				Coaching on Urban Agriculture/Home Gardening for Senior Citizens of Abra	October 29, 2021	24	Villaviciosa, Abra	Coaching on Urban Agriculture/Home Gardening for PWDs of Abra	November 11, 2021	15	Dolores, Abra	Coaching on Urban Agriculture/Home Gardening for residents of Tuding, Itogon, Benguet	November 12, 2021	32	Itogon, Benguet
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 ATI Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila 1100
 Tel. Nos. (63-2) 8929-8541 to 49 & 8928-7397 Fax No. (63-2) 8920-9792
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<p style="text-align: center;">Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Other AF</p>	<p>2nd SEMESTER EXTENSION SERVICE PROVIDER (ESP) COUNCIL MEETING</p> <p>ATI- Regional Extension Service Provider Accreditation Advisory Council meeting is being held every semester to assess and evaluate the performance of the accredited ESP especially its adherence to the ATIs standards in delivering training and extension services, to assess and deliberate if there are new applicants and also to discuss matters and updates that needs to be discussed.</p> <p>This meeting was held on November 4 at ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet to discuss the result of the actual site visitation and evaluation done with the 2 ESP applicants namely, ROMEIA in Ifugao and MT CARMEL AGRI-TOURISM TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, INC.in Abra. The actual site visitation and evaluation was done by the ATI Directorate and Secretariat together with the ESP Advisory Council for ROMEIA on June 15-16, 2021 and MT. CARMEL on June 29-30, 2021, but the restrictions due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the unavailability of some of the Council members, the consolidation and assessment on the result of the evaluation was a little bit delayed. This meeting was also held to decide whether the 2 applicants will be endorsed for accreditation as Regular ESP of ATI-CAR to ATI Central office and to the National ESP.</p> <p>Ms. Cristine B. Esnara, <i>PASS Head</i>, started by acknowledging the presence of the Council and participation of the PASS Staff representing the Secretariat. She presented the overview of the activity followed by the revised ESP Manual and its IRR. Discussions were done and some unclear matters were listed for verification at the ATI Central Office. DA-ATI-CAR OIC-TCD Charlie C. Sagudan discussed the result of the site visitation and evaluation done and asked for the opinion and judgement of the Council, whether based on the set qualification standards, did the 2 applicants passed and are they ready to be endorsed? Deliberation was done based on the result of site visitation and interview with the 2 applicants. After which the Council decided to endorse MT CAMEL AGRI-TOURISM TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, INC. because based on the assessment and evaluation, it passed all the set qualification standards. ROMEIA on the other hand will be notified on its lacking, which is the lodging house for participants.</p> <p>It was unanimously approved by the council that the endorsement for accreditation of MT. CARMEL as Regional ESP of ATI-CAR be done by January 2022. If the endorsement will be approved by the National ESP and ATI-CO.</p>





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<p style="text-align: center;">Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Evaluation and Validation</p>	<p>Evaluation and Validation for Outstanding Livestock and Poultry Raisers and Farmer Organizations with Integrated Diversified Farming System, October 11, 14-15, 27-28 and November 4-5, 2021, Buguias, Atok, Bakun, Kabayan, Bokod, Kibungan, Itogon, and Tublay, Benguet</p> <p>To promote and showcase agriculture as a competitive economic activity, the Province of Benguet thru the Provincial Veterinary Office (PVO) has launched a Search for Outstanding “Model Farmers” with Integrated Diversified Farming System and organizations promoting the livestock, poultry fishery, apiary, and crop production. This is a vital proof that agricultural farming by integrating more than two farming activities is a profitable venture which benefits both farmer and consumer and further maintains and increases food security for the province.</p> <p>The search was categorized into four: <i>Farmers Association with Integrated Diversified Farming, Small Animal Raiser with Integrated Diversified Farming, Large Animal Raiser with Integrated Diversified Farming System, and Young Farmer with Integrated Diversified Farming System.</i> Nominees were rated based on their technology application, productivity, innovativeness, biosecurity, records keeping, waste management, replicability of their technology, their participation/ contribution in the family and community and others. Winners received cash incentives and certificate of recognition from the province of Benguet awarded during the Adivay Celebration on November 23, 2021.</p> <p>To act as the committee for the search, the province partnered with the ATI-CAR as represented by Mr. Maribeth M. Ladu-an, Livestock Focal, DA-RFO-CAR, BFAR-CAR, 4-H Club President, PAFC Chairperson of Benguet, and Provincial Veterinarian of Benguet.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Validation</p>	<p>Field Validation and Judging for the Regional Search for the Best Gulayan sa Barangay</p> <p>The activity is part of the partnership with DSWD-CAR, RFO-CAR and ATI-CAR that was forged in 2018 that is to train and establish Gulayan sa Barangay managed by the 4Ps beneficiaries. The Gulayan sa Barangay aims to promoted health, nutrition and food security through involvement in cultivating vegetables, fruits and other edible produce; strengthen an individual's sense of community through participating in the management and sustenance of vegetable gardens; and promote organic vegetable gardening to ensure better health quality. After the establishment of the Gulayan sa Barangay, this search for the Best Communal Garden Among Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program aims to recognize the Pantawid Pamilya parent groups that have been implementing the program in their communities and be declared to have the Best Communal Garden in the region. There were 6 entries for the search located namely in Caba, Lagawe Ifugao; Kaleo Barlig Mountain Province; Balantoy, Balbalan, Kalinga; San Isidro, Luna Apayao; Poblacion, Itogon, Benguet and Upper Aquary, Baguio City. After the field validation, the committee convened on Nov. 22 to deliberate the winners.</p>





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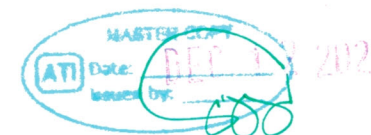
PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)	LSA	<p>Agriculture and Fishery (AF) Extension is central to growth and development of the agriculture 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-AT I, has funds allocated for interventions through its modality, the LSA, covering its establishment and continuous development support.</p> <p>LSA Establishment Rice Program 1. 6R Payew Integrated Farm</p> <p>Livestock Program 2. Irisan Yabut Rabbitry 3. Dame Elle's Poultry Farm 4. Sagada Heritage Village Bee Farm</p> <p>LSA Enhancement HVCD Program 1. La Faustino Farm 2. Garden of Life OA Program 3. Maquera Integrated Farm 4.</p> <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>





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Expanding Partnerships Along the Value Chain Through Advisory Services (Advise)	Farm Business Advisory Services	This month, there were 15 queries responded to. Queries included training related queries (4), livestock related (1), OA related (4), facilities related (2), LSA related (1), IEC related queries (2), and certificate related (1).
Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services (Disseminate)	Information dissemination through online media platforms	The Center intensified its online promotions with 12 webpage uploads that included transparency NRAM related posts (7), Announcements (3), and OA related posts (2). With the said uploads, there were 73,836 individuals reached and 1,997 page views.
	e-course developed	1 e-course was developed this month <i>(Queen Bee Rearing)</i>
	Development and distribution of quality Knowledge Products (KPs)	<p>KP Reproduced and Distributed</p> There were 2,820 reproduced and 3,445 distributed print materials. <p>Corporate Materials</p> There were also 220 copies of corporate materials reproduced and distributed.





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Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services (Disseminate)	School on-the-Air program	<p>Retrieval of SOA-SRA Documents in Mt. Province and Abra, November 24-26, 2021, Mountain Province and Abra</p> <p>During the set retrieval of SOA-SRA documents set on November 9, 10, and 17, 2021, many LGUs were not able to submit a complete set of supporting documents. Another round of retrieval was agreed upon for those LGUs who were not able to pass.</p> <p>In Mountain Province, almost all documents were retrieved except for the municipality of Paracelis who claimed that there is no available vehicle from LGU Paracelis, thus they were not able to come. For Abra, almost all documents were also retrieved except for the municipality of Tineg. There were minor ones that can be submitted electronically.</p> <p>Led by Mr. Maximino R. Aromin, Jr., Information Officer III and Mr. Jaypee Na-oy, Technical Support Staff.</p>
	Information-Related Activity Attended	<p>Process Harmonization in the Conduct of Various Information Communication Technology (ICT) Maintenance Procedure, November 11, 2021, Virtual</p> <p>Information and Communication Technology (ICT) played an important role in sustaining our business processes amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The availability of these ICT based services under this new normal is no longer an option but a must. Hence, ATI as an ISO certified agency should ensure that our ICT based processes as well as infrastructure and equipment are well maintained to meet the demand and ensure operational availability.</p> <p>In this regard, on November 11, the Information Services Division (ISD) hold a Virtual Consultative Meeting on the Process Harmonization in the Conduct of Various ICT Maintenance Procedure. Mr. Joeven Calasagsag, the Chief of the e-Extension Management Section under the ISD of ATI-CO presided the consultation-workshop. He shared and explained the Provision of ICT Maintenance Services Procedure to the group. He said that there were no ICT Maintenance Procedure yet for the whole network. Some Centers might have their own ICT procedure while some have none at all. Because of this, ATI-CO device a procedure that was presented to the group.</p> <p>Other discussions were on the updating of the transparency seal, software licenses to be programmed by each Center since P15,000.00 can be considered as supplies, explore possibilities on the different rates i.e. home and student, business, professional, 365 versions or possibility of mass license., eLearning updates: possibilities of enhancing eLearning to video format; Storyline may not be the only option; Other LMS to be considered, and possibility of issuance of eCertificates. Electronic signature to be enrolled or registered with the Philippine National Public Key Infrastructure under the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT).</p> <p>Attended by Mr. Bongbong Buli-e, MPS II and Mr. Erward B. Saldivar, Jr., Network Contoller.</p>





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Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services (Disseminate)		<p>LAUNCHING OF FITS CENTER RIZAL; MS Visit and ASSESSMENT, DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATION TO LGU-FITSC and LSAs (LSA Directory and Sprouts), November 24-26, 2021</p> <p>November 24,2021(Wednesday) - Launching of FITS Rizal. This was attended by the OMAg Rizal staff: Mr. Ferdinand Ganotice- Director for Extension Services: Mr. Victorino Bayyed-Dean-KSU Rizal Campus: MAFC Chair Mr. Narciso Dumanas; FLT Rep Desiree Beswayan, Vice Mayor Samuel Valdez and ATI staff. Brief orientation on TGP was done by Ms. Jaila Sagpa-ey: She mentioned that it was developed by DOST PCAARRD then transferred to DA-ATI;TGP will enhance the existing services of the agricultural services-additional services are the putting up of an area for IEC and provision to farmers; EO 801 was signed by Pres. Arroyo on May 2009;partnership among different agencies-KSU, OPAG and CorCARRD; on MS-it was advised that MS- advanced farmer should be nominated to help them in delivering extension to farmers.</p> <p>Messages:</p> <p>Mr. Ferdinand Ganotice- <i>KSU is mandated to extend or transfer the matured technologies as results of their research to farmers, students and other clients, and gave commitment to help OMAg Rizal in delivering extension in the area.</i></p> <p>Mr. Victorino Bayyed- shared that the partnership on TGP with ATI started way back as there was FITS Center established in KASC before; ideally, FITS center should be an avenue for farmers to get information and technologies thru printed materials and videos available; KSU Rizal Campus is also committed to extend services to the different barangay of Rizal; this is a good partnership, thru this FITS -they can conduct seminar and trainings to be funded by KSU; expressed their full support to the establishment and sustainability of FITS Center.</p> <p>VM SValdez- <i>expressed the full support to the program- it is for the betterment of the farmers and shared that SB authorized the Mayor to sign MOA in behalf of LGU Rizal; expressed thanks to ATI for selecting Rizal. Ms. Desiree Beswayan mentioned that most farmers preferred hands-on training as this is better than just reading printed IEC materials; gave commitment to relay about the FITS center to fellow farmers.</i></p> <p>During the closing remarks, Engr. Ayne Henrich Elviña said that it will be a big help as this will complement and supplement our extension delivery to the farmers.</p> <p>November 25,2021 Courtesy call to OCAs and distribute publication. The team visited to LSA Sacki's farm to distribute LSA directory. MS assessed was Mr. Caldingon of Balbalasang. ATI Staff was accompanied by Mr. Arnold Realsi and Dhea Sibayan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Crops planted: rice and corn using conventional way of production; ✓ no new or unique technology; not to be endorsed as MS but encouraged to innovate, document or record farm activities; ✓ may be tapped as partner of OMAg for techno demo activities <p>November 26,2021 Visited FITS Balbalan and monitored MS Eyadan's farm</p>





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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Learning and Development	<p>4TH QUARTER STAFF DEVELOPMENT FOR CY 2021 TRAINING ON ISO 9001:2015 INTERNAL AUDIT</p> <p>An internal audit is an important component to ensuring optimal performance of a Quality Management System (QMS). These audits can assist in monitoring the system and checking if the office is in conformance in meeting the standards The goal of an internal audit is to gather information about the effectiveness of the quality system.</p> <p>The Agricultural Training Institute-Cordillera Administrative Region has passed its International Standard Organization (ISO) 9001-2015 certification in 2018. However, the Center has been proactive in continuously improving its processes and ensuring its conformance to standards. The Center has a total of five (5) trained IQA, but due to overlapping center activities, compliance with QMS requirements may be compromise. With this, Center decided to conduct the IQA Auditors Training as one of the Staff Development activities. This will be an advantage to supplement the existing IQA auditors who shall lead the center in attaining the QMS requirements. Mr. Melchor E. Formacil, TUV SUD Training Manager served as Resource Person in this activity conducted virtually on November 22-23, 2021. 39 DA-ATI-CAR staff completed this training.</p> <p><i>Impressions:</i></p> <p><i>"Good afternoon, everyone! I am one of the internal auditors and I am grateful to our resource speaker because he shared his knowledge on how o good auditor should be. In this training, Sir Mei thoroughly discussed and emphasized the difference of maintained documented information and retained documented information. With that, I thank him because all I know was just simply 'documents and records' although both are in the same context under the ISO 19001:2015. One more thing is that when I am conducting an audit, I just usually look for the audit trail but / learned that under risk-based approach, we must also consider and ask about the futuristic criteria or what-ifs scenarios that are not present in the audit trail. So, thank you very much sir for the input although we only had two days for this but it's a great help for me as a staff and a good platform for my fellow participants to also learn the process of auditing." – Mr. Bongbong L. Buli-e, MPS II</i></p>





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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Planning Workshop	<p>DA-RFO and ATI HARMONIZATION MEETING FOR FY 2022 PLANS</p> <p>On November 3-5, the Mr. Jordan B. Pilay, Planning Officer II and Ms. Khareen Tigui-ing, DMO I, participated in the DA-CAR Regional Performance Evaluation and FY 2022 Integrated WFP Workshop initiated by the DA RFO. Activities included presentation of FY2021 contributions to the One DA Reform Agenda, preparation of FY 2022 Integrated Work and financial plan in relation to the One DA Reform Agenda, and discussion on areas of complementation and other matters.</p> <p>Activities undertaken were the presentation of the 18 key strategies of the ONE-DA by Ms. Susan D. Balanza, DA-RFO-CAR PMED Chief and presentation of FY2021 accomplishments of the DA Banner Programs and it's attached agencies. Ms. Balanza made her comment after the presentation of the FY 2021 accomplishments. She said that SOA is classified under Education and Training not on Strategic Communication since participants have evaluation activities like exams. She also reiterated the difference of the Mobilization and Empowerment versus the Education and Training. The former is to empower recipient to make contributions on their own and is mostly for us, DA workers. Education & Training deals with the Knowledge, Skills and Attitude (KSA) and is for our recipients who are mostly farmers. Digital Agriculture may contribute to Ease of Doing Business as there's no need to go to the office to submit application requirements</p> <p>OIC-RED Cameron P. Odsey message <i>"Find time to meet regularly. This Pandemic is no longer a reason not to meet. Nationwide, DA-CAR were ranked 6th in the 1st quarter, 5th in the 2nd and 3rd in the 3rd quarter. " So, he encouraged everyone to continue & strengthen the partnership. Emphasis that Duterte Administration should leave a clean legacy. "Gusto ni Apo Secretary that our works are very clear and attractive so there's no need to ask questions," he added.</i></p>





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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Field Monitoring	<p>DISPERSED RABBIT STOCKS TO 4-Her PARTICIPANTS</p> <p>During the start of the pandemic, the ATI has crafted an alternate initiative of providing extension services to its clients. As a consequence of the COVID-19, there is limited mobility of people including goods and services deserting the urban community to initiate production of agricultural food for family consumption. ATI came into the picture and provided orientation on community urban agriculture to the nearby communities since traveling is prohibited yet. Baguio City, as one of the major cities in the Philippines were tapped as participants especially the 4-H Club members/young farmers. Besides, thirty participants were also gathered in Tuba, Benguet as recipient of the extension service.</p> <p>The participants were taught how to prepare botanical inputs from kitchen waste and garden by-products into vermicomposting. Free-range chicken production and rabbit production were also imparted to them. To assure application of technologies, participants were given a pair of rabbits as starter kits. After a year, some participants had challenges encountered in the production of rabbits. The mortalities are due to feeding practices. The community is situated along the stretch of the Marcos Highway where trucking of vegetables stops over and clean the vegetables leaving it just beside the road before going down to Manila. The recipients gathered the vegetable trims and used as feeds for the stocks. The stocks were poisoned with the pesticide residues from the cuttings that led to their instant mortality. Some recipients fed their stocks with commercial feeds for swine. Also, based on their claims, the rabbits are so sensitive and throw tantrums and eventually they die after a day. The stocks are stressed due to fear and sudden loud sound or bark of dogs.</p> <p>To cope up with these, their organizer, Ms. Cristina Tolero gathered the members and advised them to review the learnings they had during the orientation. Ms. Tolero asked helped from Baguio Animal Breeding and Research Center for additional stocks to replace the mortalities. Some recipients had successful production and sold some to their fellow participants.</p>

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE
ATI Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila 1100
Tel. Nos. (63-2) 8929-8541 to 49 & 8928-7397 Fax No. (63-2) 8920-9792
Email: ati_director@ati.da.gov.ph & ati_director@yahoo.com
URL: http://www.ati.da.gov.ph; www.e-extension.gov.ph

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)	Program Launching	<p>ONE DA PROGRAM LAUNCHING AND TURN-OVER OF INTERVENTIONS FOR THE PROVINCES OF APAYAO AND ABRA, November 17-18, Luna, Apayao and Lagayan, Abra</p> <p>In celebration of the National Rice Awareness Month (NRAM) and Organic Agriculture Month, the Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office in the Cordillera through the Rice Program spearheaded the turnover ceremony of completed projects in the Provinces of the Cordillera. In connection to this, an Information Caravan dubbed as the Usapang Agrikultura as one of the strategic communications of the One DA Reform Agenda of the Department of Agriculture. With this, all attached Agencies were invited to present their programs and projects in relation to the NRAM and OA month. Part of the program is the commitment signing and the recitation of the Panatang Makapalay as this was in relation to the National Awareness Month (NRAM).</p> <p>Completed projects included among others are the following: Farm machineries, Completed Irrigation Projects, Farm-to-Market Roads, and RCEF-RFFA in terms of Rice Certified Seeds and fertilizers.</p> <p><u>For the Province of Apayao (November 17, 2021):</u></p> <p>A total of 26 participants and guest were present. Office of the Municipal Agriculture were not present as their office were in lockdown and employees were undergoing a 14-day quarantine because of the Covid 19. Mr. Doming Molina, Sangguniang Panlalawigan in-charge of the Agriculture represented the Office of the Congressman Mr. Romy Padirayon represented the Office of the Governor and OPAG. Mr. Edwin Joseph Franco, the Vice APCO of Apayao represented both the RED and the APCO of Apayao. A total of 6 Projects was turnover to beneficiaries.</p> <p><u>For the Province of Abra (November 18, 2021):</u></p> <p>A total of 70 participants and guest were present during the turn-over ceremony. Officials present during the event were: Dr. Expidito Villaruz representing the both the Office of the Congressman and the Provincial Government of Abra Mayor Edmark Crisologo of the Municipality of Lagayan. Engr. Felimon Salvador represented the Office of the RED. A total of 9 Projects was turnover to beneficiaries. All attached agencies present in the event were instrumental in the turnover ceremony.</p>





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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Orientation	<p>ORIENTATION OF FOCAL POINTS ON THE CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT FOR FARMER ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF FOOD VALUE CHAIN IN ASEAS COUNTRIES, November 24, 2021, Sab-atan Hall, ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet</p> <p>DA ATI CAR was instructed by ATI Central Office to invite at least 3-5 farmer organizations that are compliant to GAP practices and with at least a minimum of 30 members. With the help of partners from DA RFO CAR, organizations from the clustered vegetable area located in Balili, Mankayan, Benguet were identified. These organizations are active and were recipients of DA RFO interventions such as farm inputs and farm machineries and others. The identified and invited organizations were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manpat-a Farmers Association. This organization started in 2015, attended GAP trainings in 2016 conducted by ATI CAR. The organization composed of 59 members and 41 members were GAP certified. They are producing lettuce, broccoli, potato, carrot, cabbage and others. For marketing, they had been joining the KADIWA ni Ani at Kita located at Robinsons, supplying the Dizon farms, longwood marketing, Agri farm and the rest are at delivered to BAPTC and Hanger market. 2. Lucky Farmers Association. Newly established organization with 29 members and 16 GAP certified farmer members. 3. Blestdam Farmers Association. They have 72 members but the active is 56 only. Out of 56 members, only 35 were certified with GAP. 4. Pas-adan Farmers Association 5. Raniag Farmers Association. The organization have 33 members with 22 GAP certified. It is a newly established organization in June 2018, producing potatoes, carrot, lettuce and c. cabbage. <p>The activity aims to orient Officers of the abovementioned organizations on the Capacity Building Project(CBP) for Farmer Organizations to Support the Development of Food Value Chain in the ASEAN Countries. The result of the orientation and meeting will be an input to the Philippine Project proposal to be prepared by ATI CO and to be submitted on or before Dec 10, 2021 to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) for approval and funding. The Orientation was conducted by the team of Ms. Edith, Ms. Mila Urbano, and Mr. Yago from ATI Central Office.</p> <p>Part of the discussion is all about the CBP project which aims to build a win-win relationships between ASEAN farmers and food companies to expand locally by improving the capacity of the promising farmers' organizations. The expected output of the project is to increase the capacity of the supported organizations to produce value added agricultural products that meet the standards of purchasing food related companies in the ASEAN countries. The beneficiaries of this project are: 1. Members of the partner organizations who will be provided with practical knowledge and skills along the value chain in order to meet the market needs as they will have opportunity to connect to stable buyers; 2. Extension workers in the ASEAN Member State (AMS) 3. Collaborating Japanese food related companies</p>





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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Orientation	<p>in AMS 4. Food related companies Mr.Yago also presented the activities that needs to be done for the project,as follows: 1.The steering committee to establish target farmer organizations, extension training institute and the person 2. in-charge of this project in AMS. The private companies to cooperate to Steering Committee will be selected. 3. Capability building of the members of the organization and extension office 4. Marketing related activities 5. Enhanced capacity of all AMS</p> <p>For this project, JA ZENCHU was designated as a contracted organization to dispatch short term Japanese experts and training courses in Japan, I consultation with FAFD. The JA-ZENCHU is an organization in Japan which has been enhancing Japan's Agricultural Cooperative activities, cooperating to strengthen farmers' cooperatives. Some of the issues raised by the five organizations includes the following: 1. Sustainability of market outlet or unstable market demand or requirement of buyers 2. Rough road coming from barangay Balili which affects the quality of produce during transport. 3. Farmers insist of planting one to two crops only or monocrop causing over supply 4. Weather conditions leading them to plant only few crops 5. Problem on hiring laborer to work in the farm 6. Most buyers doesn't like to have MOA 7. Need training on crop programming, postharvest practices to prolong shelf-life, packing and pricing, processing, farm entrepreneur, etc.</p>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Field Monitoring	<p>FIELD VALIDATION AND JUDGING FOR THE REGIONAL SEARCH FOR THE BEST GULAYAN SA BARANGAY OF THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM</p> <p>The activity is part of the partnership with DSWD-CAR, RFO-CAR and ATI-CAR that was forged in 2018 that is to train and establish <i>Gulayan sa Barangay</i> managed by the 4Ps beneficiaries. The Gulayan sa Barangay aims to promoted health, nutrition and food security through involvement in cultivating vegetables, fruits and other edible produce; strengthen an individual's sense of community through participating in the management and sustenance of vegetable gardens; and promote organic vegetable gardening to ensure better health quality.</p> <p>After the establishment of the Gulayan sa Barangay, this search for the Best Communal Garden Among Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program aims to recognize the Pantawid Pamilya parent groups that have been implementing the program in their communities and be declared to have the Best Communal Garden in the region. There were 6 entries for the search located namely in Caba, Lagawe Ifugao; Kaleo Barlig Mountain Province; Balantoy, Balbalan, Kalinga; San Isidro,Luna Apayao; Poblacion, Itogon, Benguet and Upper Aquary, Baguio City. After the field validation, the committee convened on Nov. 22 to deliberate the winners.</p> <p>Ms. Maribeth Ladu-an of the DA-ATI-CAR was involved in this activity.</p>






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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Field Monitoring	<p>Ms. Cristine Esnara travelled to La Faustino Farm in Nalseb, Tublay, Benguet on November 3 to conduct field validation for renewal and enhancement and to monitor the status of the site. The La Faustino Farm was certified as Good Agricultural Practitioner in 2018 and was certified as ATI learning site in 2019.</p> <p>The farm has expanded its area intended for organic agriculture production. They had improved their packing area and some part of the greenhouse was installed with drip irrigation. Wider holding area is currently being constructed. For their composting facility damaged by previous typhoons, it is still for repair subject to availability of funds. The farm maintains sanitation, orderliness and records. Currently, it is being planted with various vegetables such as spinach, pechay, tomatoes, herbs, ornamentals, succulents and others. They had been partnering with companies for product marketing, reason why they are efficiently practicing crop programming for sustainable market. They are supplying the Global Market and the rest are delivered to local market. They also applied for agri-tourism at the Department of Tourism, reason why they are incorporating swimming pools at the side of the farm.</p> <p>When asked if they still wanted to renew, Mrs. Faustino and her son expressed their interest to renew their certification as learning site for Agriculture. The team reiterated the obligations and functions of a learning site which they both agreed. They were then asked to submit updated Farm Profile, signed LSA Acceptance form and proposal for enhancement. They intend to use the enhancement to improve the irrigation system in all the production area. Ms. Esnara reiterated that in case approved, the enhancement shall be used only for the improvement of the production and food safety, not to be used for swimming pools, etc. They are now on the process renewing their GAP certification to BPI for food safety and sustainability.</p>


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<p>Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)</p>	<p>Field Monitoring</p>	<p>KNOWLEDGE CENTER MANAGEMENT (TECHNO GABAY PROGRAM)</p>						
		<p>On November 25-26, Ms. Jaila Sagpa-ey, Information Officer II and Mr. Bongbong Buli-e, MPS II visited Balbalan FITS and MS Angeline Eyadan (nominated for re-appointment). Highlights during the visit:</p>						
		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="539 547 836 671">FITSC Balbalan</td> <td data-bbox="836 547 2353 671"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maintained the FITS Corner with signage, with printed IEC materials readily available ✓ Suggested that the printed IEC maybe distributed during the field visits to farmers </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="539 671 836 1066">MS Angeline Eyadan</td> <td data-bbox="836 671 2353 1066"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continuous farming activities despite working as JO at OMAg. ✓ Completed the holding area of about 20 sq.m-LSA proposal), which already served as venue of some MAFC meeting, cacao processing, and other OMAg activities; farm serves as learning area of students-where she shares her farming practices ✓ Farm practices: diversified farming; agroforestry trees planted along with cash crops; fishpond also serves as water impounding (as observed-crops watered from pond are more fertilized) ✓ Crops: cassava; pineapple- planted under shade as raw mat for wine; tiger grass for broom making; legumes-string beans, pigeon pea, singkamas; ginger; sugarcane; banana; rambutan; lanzones; gayunan orange; agro forest trees- some serving as watering plant for others esp. during summer like 'tuvhoy'; trees like alnus, bamboo planted around the farm serving as buffer and boundary; </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	HIGHLIGHTS		FITSC Balbalan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maintained the FITS Corner with signage, with printed IEC materials readily available ✓ Suggested that the printed IEC maybe distributed during the field visits to farmers 	MS Angeline Eyadan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continuous farming activities despite working as JO at OMAg. ✓ Completed the holding area of about 20 sq.m-LSA proposal), which already served as venue of some MAFC meeting, cacao processing, and other OMAg activities; farm serves as learning area of students-where she shares her farming practices ✓ Farm practices: diversified farming; agroforestry trees planted along with cash crops; fishpond also serves as water impounding (as observed-crops watered from pond are more fertilized) ✓ Crops: cassava; pineapple- planted under shade as raw mat for wine; tiger grass for broom making; legumes-string beans, pigeon pea, singkamas; ginger; sugarcane; banana; rambutan; lanzones; gayunan orange; agro forest trees- some serving as watering plant for others esp. during summer like 'tuvhoy'; trees like alnus, bamboo planted around the farm serving as buffer and boundary;
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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Staff sent to local training	<p>Training of Trainers on Site Specific Nutrient Management (SSNM) for Maize Production and Nutrient Expert for Maize, via Google Meet, October 26-28, 2021</p> <p>The 3-day training is on the <i>Nutrient Expert® for Maize: A Tool for Sustainable Yield Intensification in Maize Production</i>. NEMPH is software for quick and easy site-specific nutrient management recommendation. Topics include the following: 1) Status of the Philippine Corn Industry 2) SSNM for Maize Production 3) Fertilizer and Fertilizer Use 4) Seeds: OPV, Hybrid, and Traditional 5) Nutrient Expert® for Maize There was a hands-on activity on the use of the NEMPH and afterwards, a presentation of generated results. Nutrient Expert for Maize was developed to address the challenge of developing science-based fertilizer recommendations for smallholders. Soil fertility varies over short distances and fertilizer recommendations must be tailored to field-specific conditions (soil, crop and variety, climate/season, farmer's budget, etc.) because, in this case, "one size fits all" does not work here. The Site-Specific Nutrient Management (SSNM) Approach is a promising alternative for developing science-based fertilizer recommendation, it does not require soil testing, and has shown to improve farmer's yield and profit. However, implementation can be tedious and costly. SSNM is done through conducting nutrient omission trials (NOT) in farmer's field to determine attainable yield and yield response to nutrients N,P,K. To convert the NOT output into fertilizer recommendation is knowledge intensive and expensive - cannot be done in every field. Besides, farmers need fertilizer recommendations in bags of fertilizer. Thus, the Nutrient Expert (NE) - a tool for quick and easy formulation of SSNM recommendation. It follows the 4R Nutrient Stewardship concept which is applying the right source of plant nutrients at the right rate, at the right time, and in the right place. This is one nutrient management principle to support sustainable intensification.</p> <p>Attended by Ms. Vicky May L. Guinayen, Resley Ann G. Sumedca, and Mr. Maximino R. Aromin, Jr.</p>

Prepared by:

Brandy L. Banda-Ay
BRANDY L. BANDA-AY
 M & E/Designated Report Officer
 Date: December 12, 2021

Noted by:

Charlie C. Sagudan
CHARLIE C. SAGUDAN
 OIC- Training Center Director
 Date: December 12, 2021

