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NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGIONAL OFFICE VIII

MEDIA RELEASE

RPMC VIII monitors SAAD Phase 2 livelihood projects



The RDC VIII-RPMC Monitoring Team, with farmer-members of the Dayanog Farmers Association (left) and Cabulisan Farmers Association (right).

SOUTHERN LEYTE – The Regional Development Council VIII-Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RDC VIII-RPMC) conducted a field monitoring visit to two livelihood projects on vegetable production and egg production under the Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Field Office VIII's Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program Phase 2 on 17 April 2024.

The monitoring team first visited SAAD's vegetable production livelihood project in Barangay Dayanog, San Juan, Southern Leyte. The recipient of the said project is the Dayanog Small Coconut Farmers Association (FA), comprised of 14 active women members. The Dayanog FA obtained a package of farm inputs and tools essential for vegetable production such as seedlings, seedling trays, organic fertilizers, foliar fertilizers, crates, rakes, shovels, sprinklers, boots, walking-type agricultural tractor-rotary soil tiller, among others. They also received training in food and vegetable production. The said FA aims to produce organically grown vegetables from a 5,000 m² land area by avoiding conventional chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Relative to this, the RDC VIII-RPMC recommended to DA-SAAD the inclusion of comprehensive training on integrated pest management to combat pests effectively, supplementing the association's current sustainable practices.

According to the monitoring team, the Dayanog FA was on their third cropping cycle using the additional farm inputs and tools that they were able to purchase from the earnings of their first harvest. Each member also reaped around Php1,500 profit-share. Said livelihood project started in August 2023 with an initial budget of Php858,644.



Vegetable farm grows eggplant, corn, cucumber, squash, bitter gourd, and string beans.

The second project visited was the egg production project site in Barangay Cabulisan, Hinundayan, Southern Leyte, which is being operated by the 25-member Cabulisan Farmers Association as SAAD's recipient. They received 408 heads of ready-to-lay chicken together with other farm inputs and tools such as layer feeds, multivitamins, egg weighing scales, and egg trays. Like Dayanog FA, Cabulisan FA also received training on food production and livelihood relative to egg production and management.

The monitoring team found out that Cabulisan FA was able to reinvest the earnings from their first stock of chickens, amounting to PhP168,000, to procure a new stock composed of 194 heads of chicken. Each member was also able to receive around PhP1,000 profit-share. The egg production livelihood project started in July 2023 with a budget of PhP895,475.



Cabulisan Farmers Association's poultry facility houses a total of 560 heads of chickens for egg production.

SAAD projects have four components which are to be implemented within three years focusing on: 1) social preparation and 2) food production and livelihood (provision of goods and services) in the first year, and 3) marketing assistance and enterprise development, along with 4) program management from the second up to the third year.

SAAD Program Phase 2 (2023-2028) is a locally funded project that provides agricultural and fisheries interventions in the poorest and most remote areas of the country. Compared to SAAD Phase 1 (2016-2022) which covered 30 poorest provinces (457 municipalities) based on the 2012 and 2015 Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) Poverty Incidence Among Families, Phase 2 expanded its reach to cover 619 municipalities (66 provinces) belonging to the 5th and 6th income class municipalities and the top 33 percent of the poorest municipalities based on the 2018 PSA Poverty Incidence (excluding the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao). For CYs 2023-2024, there are 125 projects in Region VIII covering all provinces.

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Article by: Josefina Ballesteros (PMED)

Photos by: Jay-ar O. Ragub (PMED)

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