

EXIT REPORT

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Rationale

The PCR's recommendations on mainstreaming the SUD model and on the execution of exit strategies were vigorously pursued in the 18-months extension period of the UDP. They were carried out with the organic structures and programs of the LGUs in accordance with the mainstreaming agenda.

This report presents the inputs of this TA for the 7-months period which were spread out from January to November 2006. It is brief and consistent with the terms of reference, as follows:

1. Conference with Governors and Mayors to form the provincial and municipal technical groups to support the mainstreaming of the SUD model
2. Formulation of procedures for the implementation of the Agricultural Extension Delivery Scheme in the field level by the key implementers
3. Design and conduct of TAMA workshops in the provinces
4. Review on progress of MEP
5. Second round municipal budgeting workshops
6. Identification and assessment of the key parameters to accelerate mainstreaming activities
7. Design formulation for the conduct barangay budgeting workshops
8. Technical inputs in the conduct of M&E Workshops
9. Technical Inputs for the Training on Managing the Upland Agricultural Extension Delivery System
10. Other inputs

Accomplishments

Conferences with Governors and Mayors

Conferences with Governors and Mayors were conducted by the UDP co-directors and this TA in their respective offices primarily to encourage them to form technical groups for the mainstreaming of the SUD model. The conferences were also made to review the agreements signed by the LGUs with UDP and configure plans for the replication of the SUD model to other areas as the program phases out. The conferences were conducted from January to March 2006.

The technical groups in each LGU were formed out of the heads of offices on planning, agriculture, engineering, environment. Those technical groups have been serving as the channel and support structure in the conduct of mainstreaming activities since their formation.

Formulation of Procedures for Implementation of the Extension Delivery Scheme in the field level

This is the third phase in mainstreaming the extension delivery scheme and was preceded by: (1) the revitalization of the regional RDE network (DA-RFU, ATI, SUCs, PLGUs, NGOs) to support extension operations at the MLGUs (2) presentation of the extension delivery scheme together with other schemes of the SUD model to the League of Barangay Captains for legislation by the SBs and municipal-wide adoption.

The implementation of the extension delivery scheme in the field level is considered most critical and procedures were formulated for the PPOs to consider in their mainstreaming activities. Its implementation being carried out by the MA, ATs, BEW, CBET and other community organizations, required coordination. The outline procedures included the following items for refinement and agreement by the above-mentioned key implementers:

1. Discussion about the UDP agricultural extension delivery scheme
2. Agreement on the administrative structure and geographic assignment of ATs

3. Agreement on the roles of the MAs in downloading technology including sourcing services of subject matter specialists from the PLGUs and DA-RFUs as well as uploading field problems for research.
4. Agreement on the dynamics of the extension operations in the barangay and the roles of the network members or CBET
5. Scheduling field implementation using key extension message like DFS

Design and Conduct of TAMA Workshops

Due to some observed inadequacies in coordination and complementation of services in the implementation of the SUD model, the TAMA workshop was designed and conducted in each province involving project implementers and the TAMA officers or those providing financial and material support to project implementation. The workshop design included the following: (1) discussion on the key development schemes of the SUD model (2) discussion and providing solutions on problems with the prevailing procurement and voucher processing procedures (3) discussion and providing solutions on problems regarding scheduling field activities and corresponding support services.

The TAMA workshops resulted to more approved and implemented projects of the SUD schemes in the LGUs.

Review on progress of MEP

The review on the implementation of the previously formulated Municipal Extension Plan was done in each province to sort out problems and solutions for smooth project implementation. In the review sessions, all MLGUs presented common problems such as: (1) unorganized and no training conducted for the CBET particularly on non-UDP barangays (2) ad hoc assignments of ATs.

The results from the review accelerated the conduct of trainings carried out by the trainers from the TOT and regular assignments of ATs.

Second round municipal budgeting workshops

The municipal budgeting workshops were conducted in each MLGU involving the MPDC, MA, ME MENRO, Budget Officer and SB Chairman on Appropriations to encourage the continued provision of budget for the SUD schemes for year 2007. This workshop was a follow-through the workshops done in the previous year which the MLGUs provided budgets for the SUD schemes. This workshop is considered critical being the last year of coaching the MLGU on budgeting the SUD schemes.

The workshop brought about bigger budgetary allocations over the previous year by each MLGU.

Identification and Assessment of the key parameters to accelerate mainstreaming activities

For purposes of mainstreaming the SUD schemes, the key parameters were identified from the structures and programs and used to measure progress in mainstreaming as well as carry out corrective actions if any. The key parameters were identified as follows: functionality of the CBET; functionality of the learning sites; provision of budgets for the SUD schemes; integration of data in the MIS of MLGUs; conduct of regular project evaluation. The identified parameters were used by the PPOs in measuring the progress in the field and the results did not show functionality of those measures, except on learning sites.

The assessment using the key parameters have guided UDP in the conduct of trainings and coaching, among them training for managers of the extension delivery system and training for monitoring and evaluation.

Design formulation for the conduct barangay budgeting workshops

The barangay budgeting workshop was designed for the conduct by the MLGUs with the respective BLGUs and coaching by the PPOs. It was designed in view of the following goals: (1) harmonized MLGU and BLGU

budgets (2) counterpart budgeting between MLGUs and BLGUs (3) sustained replication of the SUD schemes emanating from the barangays. Its immediate objective was to influence the BLGU officers and stakeholders to provide budget for the SUD schemes for CY 2007 and beyond .

The barangay budgeting workshops have resulted to barangay budgets particularly from PPO4 and PPO3.

Technical Inputs in the Conduct of M&E workshops

Conducted lectures and workshops on project evaluation as part of the M&E Workshops on November 16 and 23, 2006. The focus of the lecture and workshop were on the (1) evaluation criteria and methodology (2) the importance of conducting annual evaluations to document the project merits and worth and ultimately sustained budget for the SUD schemes.

The lectures and workshop on project evaluation was introductory in scope as it was supposed to be conducted en situ at the MLGUs with the members of the local Evaluation Committee.

Technical Inputs for the Training on Managing the Upland Agricultural Extension Delivery System

Conducted lecture and workshop on Municipal/Provincial Extension Planning with the MAs and PAs of UDP-covered provinces and municipalities. The lecture and workshop were focused on the planning premises, situational analysis, objective setting, strategies for community mobilization, monitoring and evaluation. However, the duration of the training was limited and therefore lack the participants' articulation and internalization.

Other inputs

Advisory and technical inputs during MANCOM and other meetings

Recommendations

As the topmost concern in the last few months of UDP, mainstreaming or the integration of the SUD schemes in the LGU structures and programs, has to concentrate on few activities with long lasting impact, as follows:

1. Action planning workshops on extension delivery services in each MLGU involving the MA, ATs, BEWs, CBET, BLGU.
2. Action planning workshop for the conduct of annual project evaluation **(not in the context of project cycle management)** to document project worth/benefits to support continued provision of budgets for SUD schemes. The workshop shall be conducted *en situ* at the MLGUs involving the local Evaluation Committees and the DILG Officer, who shall be allies for upland development.
3. Action planning conference with the MPDT and PPDT in each MLGU and PLGU to map out strategies for the continued adoption of the SUD model after the close of the program.
4. Pursue the conduct the barangay budgeting workshops thru coaching the MLGU and BLGU officers

GLOSSARY OF ABEVIATIONS

AT	Agricultural Technician
ATI	Agricultural Training Institute
BEW	Barangay Extension Worker
BLGU	Barangay Local Government Unit
CBET	Community Based Extension Team
CY	Calendar Year
DA	Department of Agriculture
DFS	Diversified Farming System
LGU	Local Government Unit
MA	Municipal Agriculturist
MEP	Municipal Extension Plan
MLGU	Municipal Local Government Unit
NGO	Non Government Organizations
PA	Provincial Agriculturist
PCR	Pre Completion Review
PLGU	Provincial Local Government Unit
PPO	Provincial Project Office
RDE	Research Development Extension
RFU	Regional Field Unit
SUC	State Universities and Colleges
TAMA	Trust Account Management Agreement