

# OUR MODEL FOR AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSAL

February 2005

## The model

1. Participatory formulated BDP including land use plan, adopted formally by all stakeholders particularly the community
2. Landuse plan shows which area are agreed for agricultural development and which forest areas to protect
3. DA with updated policy, new programmes (if any) to support upland farmers through MLGU
4. MLGUs to promote the Diversified Farming System (DFS) approach with upland farmers in the designated areas for agricultural development in the barangay
5. The system for delivery has two extension networks, closely linked. They both start at the MAO's office:
  - a. **The community based extension network**

This network consists of the MAO, the AT assigned to that barangay, the B.E.W. and an FTG member in each sitio of the barangay and a learning site of the UBA for transfer of technologies and other extension events
  - b. **The formal extension network**

This network starts also at the MAO level and includes the PAO and the DA RFU with its related agencies, particularly the ATI and the academe

## Linkage between networks and proposed implementation strategy for discussion

6. The link between the two networks is that any training and research needs would reach the MAO from the field (FTG, BEW, AT) and if the MA cannot arrange to fulfill the needs, s/he will approach the PA and if the PAO's subject matter specialists cannot fulfill the demand then PA will forward it to the DA RFU for support. For training it would automatically end up with ATI
7. The DA, in case it would have a special programme for upland farmers, may be hopefully in the near future, would solely work through the M/BLGU
8. The MLGU will utilize the community extension network in respect of uploading the demand for services and downloading the response like training and research results For the DFS programme, the MA will seek the recommendation of the FTG member in the sitio before inputs can be extended to the requesting new DFS farmer. The FTG, being responsible for convincing his/her neighbors anyway, will recommend to AT/BEW/MAO. The FTGs recommendation will be the basis for extending the seedling and other support to the proposed new DFS farmer. As long as UDP is still around, the 3000 peso input for the recommended farmer can be arranged through payments from petty cash fund like with road maintenance. Another option would be to park some funds under the TAMA and have the LGU take care of the seedling and other distribution to the FTG proposed beneficiary
9. In respect of ATI trainings, it is proposed that ATI will only be involved in TOT trainings for AT's and BEWs in facilitation skills development (module already prepared) and FFS methodology (ATI has the module also most probably)
10. In respect of farmers training, this will be hands-on and done at the farm thru coaching by AT and BEW or it will be done at the learning site whatever is most appropriate. There will be no farmer's trainings in ATI or any other institution. Exposure trips of course could still be facilitated by UDP/LGU. All crop related training would be conducted using the FFS approach and the resource persons, selected through the networks, will go to the learning site/or farm for the regular sessions. Other relevant trainings for farmers would be assessed case by case on how to do it