

EXIT REPORT

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August to December 2004

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Rationale

The Upland Development Programme (UDP) in its final year of operation is concerned with the integration of its tested approaches or schemes into the regular activities of partner institutions to sustain and expand the successful development processes. UDP's focus of integration are on the Municipal Local Government Units (MLGUs), the Barangay Local Government Units (BLGUs), the Provincial Local Government Units (PLGUs), the Department of Agriculture Field Units (DA-RFUs) including the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), the State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), some Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and Barangay Associations.

The integration was primarily centered on the tested upland agricultural extension scheme but later included the labor-based barangay road maintenance scheme and the barangay forest protection-management scheme. The integration involved several activities to achieve its goals.

This report presents the inputs of this consultant for the period August 23 to December 31, 2004. It is presented in brief and consistent with terms of reference. The inputs are as follows:

1. Review of policies, structure and operational mechanisms on agricultural extension
2. Formulation of the methodology for integrating the agricultural extension delivery system with partner institutions
3. Conduct of regional consultations with major stakeholders on extension in Region XI and XII particularly the DA-RFUs, ATI, SUCs, PLGUs, MLGUs and NGOs.
4. Presentation of the Upland Agricultural Extension Delivery Scheme, including the Labor-based Barangay Road Maintenance Scheme and the Barangay Forest Protection-Management Scheme to the League of

Barangay Captains in the UDP-covered municipalities.

5. Other Inputs

Accomplishments

The following accomplishments are presented in summary form and in accordance with the Terms of Reference (TOR)

Review of policies, structure and operational mechanisms on agricultural extension

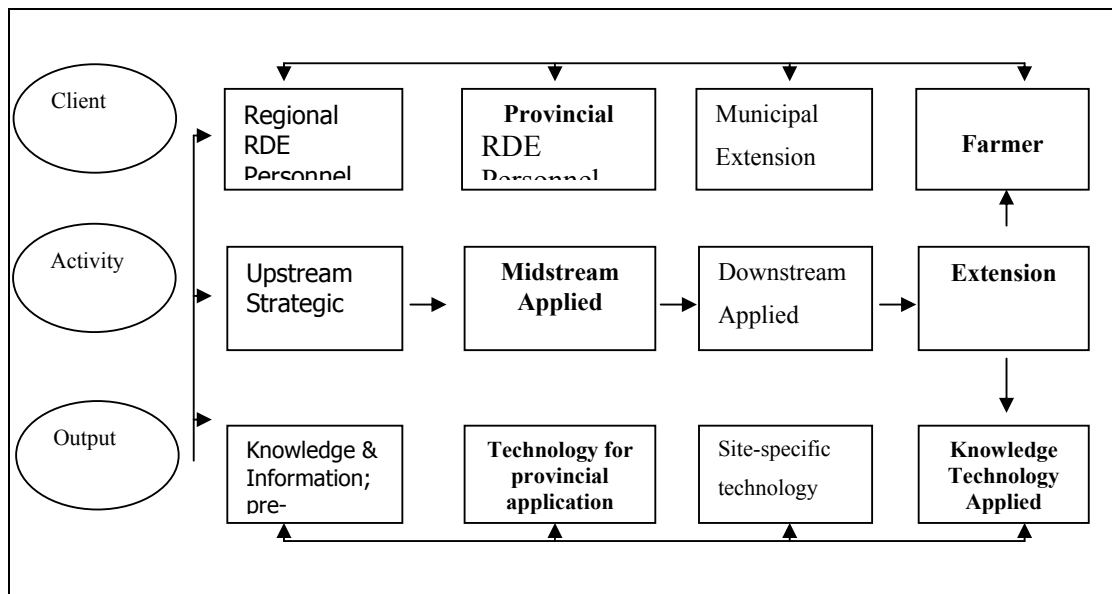
The review was made to gain insights as inputs in the formulation of the methodology for integrating the agricultural extension scheme with the regular activities of partner institutions. It took into account the merits of the policies, structure and mechanisms derived from RA 8435 and 7160, as the basis of agricultural policy issuances since the early 1990s. The review yielded merits and problems of implementation of those policies, structures and mechanism and were addressed in the methodology.

1. Republic Act 8435 and 7160 thru their IRR have provided the operational structure, roles and relationships among government agencies involved in agricultural research and extension with the LGU as the implementing agency for extension and the others as technological and service support agencies. Please see Figure 1, the research development extension (RDE) and continuum of relationship.
2. Those republic acts were made basis of the issuance of DA Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 1999, Strengthening the Structure and Management of Regional Agriculture and Fishery Research and Development and Extension System, purposely to support extension operations in the field.
3. RA 8435 was also made basis in the issuance of Unnumbered Administrative Order Series of 2004 dated September 22, 2004, outlining the National Extension Agenda and Programs (NEAP).
4. Administrative Order on NEAP defines among others the cost-sharing scheme for collaborative extension programs between DA and LGU as shown in the table below.

DA's share	Combined share of provinces, municipalities and cities According to economic status of LGUs			
	Ist class	2 nd class	3rd class	4 th to 6 th class
30%	70%			
60%		40%		
75%			25%	
85%				15%

5. RA 7160 particularly Section 17 points to the MLGU as the immediate implementing agency for agricultural extension.

Figure 1. The research development extension (RDE) and continuum of relationship



This report highlights the information which need to be addressed in the methodology:

1. The extension system is not unified. The prescribed structure and continuum of relationship among involved agencies (prescribed in Figure 1) are not adopted

in the field level wherein gaps and overlapping of roles exist in the extension process. Technical support from national agencies to extension operations at the LGU level were minimal.

2. The Local Government Code (RA 7160, Section 17) as it transferred to the LGUs, the power to administer extension services, require new set of competencies of the extension workers and political will and responsiveness among local officials. However, capacity building towards those directions were inadequate. Extension services did not adequately provide knowledge, and other enabling attributes for farmer/fishermen development.
3. The involvement of the Barangay Local Government Units and barangay associations for extension has been made optional, thereby missing the local resources in carrying out agricultural extension for development
4. The provisions of the NEAP particularly the cost-sharing schemes in extension are not yet carried out.

Formulation of the methodology for integrating agricultural extension delivery system with partner institutions

The formulation of the methodology considered the findings from the review of policies, structure and mechanisms on agricultural extension under RA 8435 and 7160, some observations from the field and lessons from other projects. The methodology aims to achieve the following:

1. Unified extension efforts among agencies;
2. Defined and agreed agency roles on the aspect of support and extensions operations
3. Secured commitment by LGU officials and other stakeholders,
4. Upgraded capabilities of LGU agricultural technologists and officials
5. Involvement of the barangay local government units, BEWs and barangay associations in the extension processes

The integration process was designed to proceed in three stages as follows:

1. Consultation thru conferences on agricultural extension system for Region XI and X11 with the DA-RFUs including their instrumentalities like the RIARC and RAFID, the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), all the Provincial Local

2. Review of policies, structure and operational mechanisms on agricultural extension
3. Formulation of the methodology for integrating the agricultural extension delivery system with partner institutions
4. Conduct of regional consultations with major stakeholders on extension in Region XI and XII particularly the DA-RFUs, ATI, SUCs, PLGUs, MLGUs and NGOs. Presentation of the Upland Agricultural Extension Delivery Scheme, including the Labor-based Barangay Road Maintenance Scheme and the Barangay Forest Protection-Management Scheme to the League of Barangay Captains in the UDP-covered municipalities.
5. Other Inputs

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1. The extension system is not unified. The prescribed structure and continuum of relationship among involved agencies (prescribed in Figure 1) are not adopted in the field level wherein gaps and overlapping of roles exist in the extension process. Technical support from national agencies to extension operations at the LGU level were minimal.
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3. The involvement of the Barangay Local Government Units and barangay associations for extension has been made optional, thereby missing the local resources in carrying out agricultural extension for development
4. The provisions of the NEAP particularly the cost-sharing schemes in extension are not yet carried out.

The integration process was designed to proceed in three stages as follows:

1. Consultation thru conferences on agricultural extension system for Region XI and XII with the DA-RFUs including their instrumentalities like the RIARC and RAFID, the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), all the Provincial Local Government Units in each region, some Municipal Agriculturists in the UDP-

covered municipalities, the State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), the Regional Agriculture and Fishery Councils (RAFC), some Non-government Organizations (NGOs) The consultation was designed to define agency roles, solicit suggestions on the integration of the upland agricultural extension scheme in the regular activities of partner institutions and to enlist them in the extension network. The consultation/conference format included drafting of memo of understanding among the involved agencies.

2. The second stage of the integration methodology is the meeting with the League of Barangay Captains and presentation of the agricultural extension scheme for their possible adoption at their official session. The presentations shall be made in the presence of the Municipal Agriculturist/ Municipal Team Leader, the municipal Planning Coordinator and the Municipal Engineer who are action officers in the MLGU. The meeting and presentation is designed to solicit Barangay League resolutions adopting the scheme and endorsing to the SB for legislation and program action by the MLGU executive. It is also designed to identify training needs of the constituents of the League of Barangay Captains which could be supported by UDP..
3. The third stage is designed for the orientation of barangay officials, barangay associations (UBA, UCO, FTG, POs/R0s) , BEWs and farmers about: (1) the memorandum of understanding for collaborative extension efforts for their barangays by various agencies; (2) the League resolutions adopting and supporting the implementation of the agricultural extension scheme, (3) the SB resolution legitimizing, funding and implementing the scheme by the MLGU. The orientation shall provide the stakeholders, the information on program opportunities and services for their development.

Conduct of regional consultations/conferences for Region XI and XII

Two regional consultations/conferences were conducted in each region which were attended by the key officials or duly authorized representatives of the DA-RFUs, including their RIARCs and RAFIDs, the ATI, the SUCs, all the PLGUs in each region, selected Municipal/City Agriculturists, RAFC Chairman and some NGOs. The

regional consultations/conferences were preceded by small-group meetings in each region to form the core group.

In the consultations/conferences, the existing roles of the involved institutions were presented followed by the discussion on the upland agricultural extension scheme based on UDP experience and RA 8435 and 7160. The upland agricultural extension scheme was presented to illustrate a unified extension service with strong technological support, defined roles of technicians, involvement of various groups and individuals in the barangay and the conduct of appropriate extension strategies. The consultations/conferences allotted more time for workshops, wherein each agency refined their roles under new circumstances particularly the provisions of RA 8435 and 7160.

The first workshop in each region failed to document agency roles in collaborative manner, so that the second workshop was convened for both Region XI and XII. Region XII however conducted more than two consultation and workshops.

The results of the regional consultations/conferences are the draft memo of understanding for signature by the heads of national agencies in the region and LGU in Region XI and XII..

Presentation of the Upland Agricultural Extension Delivery Scheme, and other schemes to the League of Barangay Captains

The second stage in the integration process was solely set for the presentation of the agricultural extension delivery scheme to the League of Barangay Captains. However at this stage, the UDP Co-Directors directed the inclusion for presentation, the Labor-based Barangay Road Maintenance and the Barangay Forest Protection-Management Schemes with the extension delivery scheme to form the key approach to sustain upland development as well as protect the lowlands from droughts and floods.

Most presidents and members of the League of Barangay Captains were from the lowlands and were interested in the implementation of the three schemes for the following rationalization: (1) the schemes will sustain development in the uplands (2) environmentally developed uplands will benefit the lowlands in terms of steady water supply and minimized floods (3) the three schemes are applicable in the lowlands particularly the agricultural extension delivery scheme.

The presentation of the three schemes were done at Magsaysay, Davao del Sur, Malapatan, Sarangani Province and Tangtangan, South Cotabato. All the three

municipalities formulated and approved resolutions adopting the three schemes and endorsing to the SB for legislation and program action by the MLGU executives.

This stage in the integration process aimed to cover as many presentations with League of Barangay Captains, however, the presentations have to jibe with the Leagues' schedule especially during Christmas season.

Other Inputs

Providing inputs in the form of technical advices at the management consultative conferences at the PMO.

Preparation of "hand outs" or leaflets for the regional consultation/ conferences and for the presentation of the upland development schemes to the League of the League of Barangay Captains. The "hand outs" which were prepared in an integrated format covered the agricultural extension delivery scheme, the labor-based barangay road maintenance scheme and the barangay forest protection-management scheme and were distributed to the participants. They served as reference and discussion papers.

Making arrangements with the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), Davao City, for the speaking engagement and other protocols for His Excellency Jan de Kok, Head of Delegation, European Union Commission (EU) in the Philippines. The planned engagement was set for December 2-3, 2004 to cover subject areas on the Upland Development Program, EU-RP relations and other bilateral projects.

Recommendation

1. Coaching the implementation of the three development schemes by PPO personnel with the MPT in the lead role for the UDP-covered municipalities which the League of Barangay Captains have adopted thru League Resolutions. Coaching shall include assistance in the form of training-workshops to make the three schemes operational, with the following focus:

- a. Training-workshops for organization and capability building of the extension network members to make the extension network and its mechanism operational in the municipality.
 - b. Training-workshops for capability building and organization of teams for the labor-based routine barangay road maintenance
 - c. Training-workshops for identification, delineation and organization of teams for the barangay forest protection-management, including assistance pertaining to the signing of memo of agreements with the BLGU, DENR and the MLGU.
2. Presentation of the three development schemes by the PMO team to the other League of Barangay Captains of UDP-covered municipalities, for their consideration for adoption and endorsement to the SB for legislation and program action by the MLGU executive.
3. Accelerate the signing of memo of understanding among regional and provincial officials concerned for the coordinated support to extension operations at the MLGU level.
3. Recommendations 1 and 2 should be done simultaneously in systematic manner by the two groups in order to finish the tasks effectively before the close of the UDP in December 2005.

GLOSSARY OF ABEVIATIONS

AFMA	Agricultural Modernization Act
AT	Agricultural Technician
ATI	Agricultural Training Institute
BGY	Barangay
BEW	Barangay Extension Worker
BLGU	Barangay Local Government Unit
CBFM	Community-Based Forest Management
DA	Department of Agriculture
DFS	Diversified Farming System
FFS	Farmers Field School
FSC	Financial Service Center
FTG	Farmers Training Group
IRA	Internal Revenue Allotment
ISFP	Integrated Social Forestry Program
LOI	Letter of Instruction (from Office of the President)
MAFC	Municipal Agriculture and Fishery Council
MAO	Municipal Agricultural Officer
MLGU	Municipal Local Government Unit
OMAG	Office of the Municipal Agriculturist
OPAG	Office of the Provincial Agriculturist
PLGU	Provincial Local Government Unit
PO	Peoples Organization
RA	Republic Act
RAFID	Regional Agriculture and Fishery Information Division
RDE	Research Development Extension
RFU	Regional Field Unit