



2022 Rainy Season Continued!

Output 1: Cultivation Techniques



< Weeding Workshop in Buluto >

1. Progress of Rainy Season Farmer Field School (FFS) Activities

In this February, 3rd workshop on weeding, 4th Workshop on pest control, and 5th Workshop on seed maintenance have been conducted. In Maliana I site, cumulatively total 7 workshops were conducted with 72 participating farmers and 7 Extension workers. In Buluto site, total 8 workshops were conducted with 83 participating farmers and 9 Extension workers.

2. Progress of Rainy Season Cultivation

Many farmers in Maliana I and in middle canal of Buluto reached to flowering stage. Rice bug was biggest challenge in term of pest control in this stage, however, it was controlled well this year by introducing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) method in the Project.

3. Wet Direct Seeding Trial with the University of Tokyo

The demo site which applying introduced technics looks different from other farmers' fields surrounding area, and is expected for increased productivity.

Output 2: Irrigation Water Management



< OJT for GK in Maliana I >

1. Trial General Assembly Meeting in Buluto

The trial General Assembly Meeting in the form of a Representative Meeting was held on March 8. The President of Water Users' Association (WUA) submitted 3 agendas such as WUA annual work plan, annex of the regulations, and the Irrigation Management Manual in the meeting and all items were basically approved by the participants.

2. Revising Irrigation Management Manuals for both Buluto and Maliana I

All main stakeholders including WUA, Director of MAF Bobonaro, 3 Chief Villages in Maliana I accepted contents of the Irrigation Management Manual. The Manual was approved by main stakeholders both in Buluto and Maliana I and finalized.

On March 21, Task Group (TG) members and the municipal Irrigation Officer trained Gate Keepers in Maliana I particularly on taking records for the operation of main gates and for water flow condition monitoring in secondary canals.

On March 23, the municipal Irrigation Officer explained the Manual focusing on Rotational Irrigation to the Chief of Canals, Gate Keepers, secretariat members of WUA.

3. Water Fee Collection in Maliana I

The water fee collection has been continued by the Chief of Canals and collected rate was about 16%. WUA and the Chief of Canal agreed to continuously contribute to this activity.

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector)

1. Cooperation for CAAKUB Farmers Association

We checked all equipment, stock of paddy purchased, and fertilizers used for the Membership Program. Although 5 S (*Seiri, Seiton, Seisou, Seiketsu, Shitsuke*) was not implemented properly at CAAKUB's warehouse, after the Project pointed out and reminded CAAKUB members of 5S, CAAKUB members sorted stocks cleanly and properly. We also confirmed amount of fertilizers which CAAKUB received and provided for membership farmers. In addition, we discussed how CAAKUB sell milled rice to National Logistic Centre (NLC). We will firstly support to register for and have a sales contract with NLC.

Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)



< Socialization Workshop in Maliana I >

1. Socialization Workshop for NLC's Purchase Plan

NLC explained to participating local authorities and farmers about new purchase system in 2022 where NLC would purchase milled rice with \$ 1.25/kg at only 3 NLC's warehouses, namely Tibar (Liqueca Municipality), Baucau, and Natarbora (Manatuto Municipality), not including Maliana I warehouse. The participating farmers requested NLC to purchase not only milled rice but also paddy like before, and they also asked NLC to purchase at Maliana I warehouse as well because of difficulties of transportation of paddy/milled rice from Maliana I to Tibar warehouse. These requests by the farmers were not accepted by NLC at this workshop because NLC already made a concrete plan for purchase of milled rice this year.

2. Survey on Rice Milling Machine in Maliana I

We conduct a survey to check the number and conditions of all milling machines in Maliana I.