# **Project News**

## September, 2020



The Project for Increasing Farmers Households' Incomes through Strengthening Domestic Rice Production in Timor-Leste



### **Dry Season Cultivation and Paddy Purchase Operation Continued**

#### **Output 1: Cultivation Technics**

#### 1. Regular Activities



We continued growth monitoring, pest control, and water control at both Buluto and Maliana.

#### 2. Farmers Field Day in Buluto



On Sep 22, 2020 Farmers Field Day was conducted at Vemasse, Buluto demonstration site with participants of 22 farmers and 3 MAF extension workers, and Project staffs.

#### 3. Harvest of Dry Season Cultivation



In September, 4 farmers in Vemasse, Buluto and 3 farmers in Maliana harvested their paddy.

# Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector)

#### 1. CAAKUB and ACELDA's Purchase

|        | CAAKUB    | ACELDA    |
|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Sep 20 | 12.9 tons | 10.0 tons |
| Total  | 44.5 tons | 52.0 tons |

We continued to support CAAKUB and ACELDA's paddy purchase activities, and the results are shown as above.

#### 2. CAAKUB's Payment to the Farmers



We supported CAAKUB to make payment to farmers, utilizing COVID-19 budget allocated for agricultural products procurement.

#### 3. Visit Webaba Farmers Association



We supported MAF Agro-commerce to confirm quality and quantity of paddy of Webaba Farmers Association, Covalima municipality, in order to supply rice to Farmers Market.

### Output 2: Irrigation Water Management

#### 1. Canal Monitoring

We continued to monitor water level of Buluto and Maliana I irrigation schemes. Both irrigation schemes decreased water volume.

#### 2. Buluto Water User Association (WUA)'s Water Fee Collection

| Month  | Contribution | Contribution | No. of Farmers |
|--------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Sep 20 | Paddy (Kg)   | Money (\$)   | who paid       |
| Total  | 1,527        | 282          | 302            |



WUA and Kabu-we meeting

We continued to support the Buluto WUA to collect water fee from the beneficiary farmers and the contribution was collected as the above table. With this successful result, the WUA board members and Kabu-we discussed about the utilization of this collected water fee on Sep 30, 2020.

## Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)

#### 1. NLC's Payment to Farmers in Buluto

We followed up NLC's payment, but unfortunately NLC could not complete payment to the farmers groups in Buluto for paddy purchase in August 2020 due to incompletion of documentations.

### 2. Difference in Quality of Paddy between Suai, Covalima and Project Site



NLC has analyzed the quality of paddy purchased from Suai and Project Sites

(Buluto and Maliana). According to NLC, moisture contents of paddy from Project Sites was almost 13%, more stable and less mixed with mud and stones than one from Suai.

#### **Output 5: Training and Policies**

#### 1. Survey in Other Irrigation Schemes (IS)



Head works of Bebui IS

Interview farmers in Larisula IS IS)

We conducted a survey and site visit in Bebui and Larisula ISs from Aug. 31 to Sep. 4, 2020 in order to understand current conditions in these ISs.

#### **Next Month Main Activities**

**Output 1**: Yield survey, Prepare for next rainy season cultivation.

**Output 2**: Facilitate Buluto WUA to draft report on water fee collection.

**Output 3**: Support CAAKUB's membership program socialization.

**Output 4**: Follow up NLC's payment in Buluto, making SOP for paddy purchase.

Output 5: Make survey report on other ISs.