



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



Farmers Field School (FFS) activities for 2020/2021 Started

Output 1: Cultivation Technics

1. Farmers Field School (FFS) 2020/2021 Work Shop (WS)

Date	Session	No. of Farmers
Maliana I		
Jan 7	Nursery Bed	20
Jan 12	Transplanting	15
Jan 26	Transplanting	12
Jan 27	Weeding	15
Buluto		
Jan 8	Seed Preparation	18
Jan 10	Nursery Bed	18
Jan 15	Nursery Bed	18

We started 2020/2021 rainy season cultivation FFS with 80 farmers in Maliana I and 80 farmers in Buluto. We discussed Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) with newly joined farmers, also had a discussion with the farmers from 2019/2020 season farmers about the expansion of their GAP cultivation fields. The details of FFS workshop is shown at the above table.



< Weeding WS in Maliana I >

Condition	No. of Farmers (out of 80 farmers)	
	Maliana I	Buluto
FFS Sites		
Land Preparation	80	74
Sowing Seeds	80	53
Transplanting	17	3

Thanks to the good start of rainfall of this season, many farmers started rice cultivation earlier than the previous year. The progress of rice cultivation of FFS farmers is shown at the above table.

Output 2: Irrigation Water Management

1. River Course in Buluto



The river course in Buluto changed away from the intake side. Therefore, many farmers tried to remove sedimentation manually to divert water from the opposite side to the side of intake. The Project will continue to support the farmers and Water Users' Association (WUA) to coordinate with Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) national or local authorities to solve this challenge.

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector) Con.

2. Survey on Domestic Rice Campaign

We started to conduct a survey on impact of domestic rice production campaign, which has been done for a period from the middle of December 2020 to the end of January 2021. This survey will interview in total 100 farmers in both Maliana I and Buluto to know the impact of the campaign and effects on the increase of farmers motivation in rice production.



<Interviewing farmers in Maliana I >

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector)

1. CAAKUB and ACELDA's Membership Program



For CAAKUB farmers association in Maliana I, we started to measure land size by GPS for 105 farmers who registered membership, in collaboration with Output 1. Based on the measured land size, CAAKUB will distribute fertilizers to the farmers. For ACELDA company in Buluto, through socialization on the membership, 116 farmers were registered for this membership.

Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)

1. Paddy Purchase Prices

The Project further confirmed National Logistic Center (NLC)'s paddy purchase prices, namely \$ 0.40/kg for NLC's direct purchase, and \$0.52/kg for farmers' transportation to NLC's warehouse with minimum 3 tons. The Project and staffs in NLC's Maliana warehouse informed these prices to local authorities and farmers in Maliana I and II.



<Explaining the prices to Suco chief >

Next Month Main Activities

Output 1:

Conduct FFS WS and support farmers.

Output 2:

Support WUA to tackle with illegal action.

Output 3:

Continue to support membership program.

Output 4:

Make Standard Operating Procedures for purchasing paddy by NLC.