Project News

March, 2021



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



Farmers Field School (FFS) and CAAKUB & ACELDA's membership Program Continues

Output 1: Cultivation Technics

1. FFS 2020/2021 Work Shop (WS)

We conducted 4th FFS workshop with MAF extension workers in Maliana1 on March 23, 2021. This session was on pest and disease control also seed maintenance. In total 16 lead farmers including 3 females joined the workshop.



< 4th FFS workshop in Maliana I>

2. Monitoring FFS Farmers

In Maliana I, most of paddy are getting into flowering stage. This is the time for rice pests severely attack flowering rice, therefore, we sprayed pesticide with the farmers. Also, we almost finished 80 DAS (Days After Sowing) growth monitoring survey. Relatively good number of tillers, which around 300 was observed.



<Demonstration Field in Maliana I>

In Buluto, some farmers are still weeding their fields and we reached 80 DAS growth monitoring stage only for few farmers.



<Growth Monitoring in Buluto>

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector)

1. CAAKUB Farmers Association's Membership Program

Project continued to support to distribute chemical fertilizers to 150 membership farmers out of 187 farmers. Distributed amount is shown as the below table. Also 4 Project staff members continued to monitor the membership farmers' cultivation activities.

Fertilizer	Planned Amount (sack)	Distributed Amount (sack)
NPK (50kg/sack)	660	235
Urea (50kg/sack)	330	241

2. ACELDA company's Membership Program

Project continued to support to distribute chemical fertilizers to 96 membership farmers out of 209 farmers. Distributed amount is shown as the below table. Also 2 Project staff members continued to monitor the membership farmers' cultivation activities.

Fertilizer	Planned Amount (sack)	Distributed Amount (sack)
NPK (50kg/sack)	420	87.0
Urea (50kg/sack)	210	132.5



<Explanation on how to apply fertilizer to the farmers by Project staff>

Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)

1. Socialization on Paddy Purchase by National Logistic Center (NLC) in surrounding areas in Baucau



NLC with Project conducted socialization 3 times in surrounding areas in Baucau (refer to the below map) from 2 to 4 March, 2021. Around 50 farmers attended for each socialization. The farmers showed great interests in selling paddy to NLC.



2. Establishment of Rice Task Force We had a meeting with chief advisor for Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) to confirm the last version of joint agreement on the establishment of the Task Force.

Next Month Main Activities

Output 1:

Conduct FFS WS and monitor farmers.

Output 2:

Support Water Users' Association (WUA) to prepare next water fee collection.

Output 3:

Continue to support membership program.

Output 4:

Support to open bank account of farmers' groups to sell paddy to NLC.