



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

Output 1: Cultivation Technics

1. FFS 2020/2021 Work Shop (WS)

We conducted 5th FFS workshop on harvest and post-harvest with MAF extension workers in Maliana I on April 14 and 30, 2021. Core concern among the participating farmers was pest control since most of the farmers were still heading to maturing stage and worried about pest damage like rice bug and plant hopper.

For Buluto, due to the lockdown, we could not conduct gathering workshop.



< 5th FFS workshop in Maliana I >

2. Monitoring FFS Farmers

We almost finished 80 DAS (Days After Sowing) growth monitoring survey both in Maliana I and Buluto.

For Maliana I, the cyclone hit on April 4 provided full of water at the heading stage in the field, and sunny weather continues. These conditions contributed good growth and could lead to good harvest.

For Buluto, it was observed that more interests and frequent maintenance on rice field could bring to better growth in tiller number and height.



<Good standing rice of Lead Farmer in Laleia, Buluto>

3. Yield Survey

In Maliana I, the farmers started to harvest from middle of April, and showed good results so far. We will share the results of yield survey later.

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector)

1. CAAKUB Farmers Association's Membership Program

Project supported to organize a CAAKUB group leaders' meeting on April 20. In the meeting, CAAKUB decided to start to purchase paddy from the beginning of May.



<Group leaders meeting>

2. ACELDA company's Membership Program

2 Project staff members continued to monitor the membership farmers' cultivation activities, also supported to distribute pesticides prepared by ACELDA.



<Monitoring paddy by Project staffs>

3. Donation of agricultural products

Agro-Commerce Department of Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Project donated local agricultural products, which were sold in the Loja dos Agricultores, to 140 households suffered from severe flood caused by the Cyclone Seroja on April 4. They were 1,400 kg of domestic rice, and 840 kg of red beans, mug beans, soybeans.



Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)

1. Preparation for purchasing paddy by National Logistic Center (NLC)

NLC's Maliana staff supported one new farmers group to open bank account in accordance with the new explanation note and standard operation procedure version 1. Having a bank account of a farmers group is one of conditions for selling paddy to NLC, because the payment for sold paddy is made through bank transfer by NLC.

NLC was facing the shortage of rice bags to distribute to farmers before purchasing paddy. However, there were around 500 remained rice bags (for 25 tons) in NLC's Maliana warehouse, and 200 bags of them were already distributed to the farmers.



<Collection of rice bag by farmer>

2. Establishment of Rice Task Force

The Project made a schedule for relaunching the Rice Task Force and had meeting with MAF side to proceed to relaunch the establishment of the Task Force.

Next Month Main Activities

Output 1:

Conduct FFS WS, Conduct yield survey.

Output 2:

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

Output 3:

Continue to support membership program.

Output 4:

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