Project News

June, 2021



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



Paddy purchase by private sector started!

Output 1: Cultivation Technics



< Model Farmer in Vemasse, Buluto>

1. Yield Survey on rainy season cultivation in Buluto

We conducted Simple Yield Survey and Yield Component Survey in Buluto. Simple Yield Survey results of 41 Farmer Field School participants showed the farmers in Vemasse achieved our target of 5 tons/ha. This could be because they followed project's recommendation rate for basal fertilizer, transplanted younger seedlings, and applied pesticide. Yield Component Survey, especially panicle number per m² also showed good results in the farmers in Vemasse.

2. Dry Season Cultivation

In total 81 farmers (22 in Buluto and 59 in Maliana I) join Farmers Field School (FFS) in this dry season rice cultivation and started the production. Because of expanded market opportunities, the number of farmers who cultivate rice has increased.

< Transplanting in Maliana I >

Output 2: Irrigation Water Management



< Interview in Buluto>

1. Current situation Survey to stakeholders

The interview survey to understand the current situations in both Buluto and Maliana I irrigation schemes continued. As end of June, 2021, we completed the interview for 7 gate keepers, 50 lateral canal leaders, 11 WUA board members, 10 Suco chiefs, 3 submunicipal administrators. We will continue the interview for targeted farmers.

2. Farmers Register List (FRL)

Making the FRL containing the information on cultivator's names, status, cultivated areas started in Buluto. In addition, locations of the diversion facilities and the names of lateral canal leaders (Kabu-wees) will also be compiled. This making the FRL is conducted utilizing Kabu-wees' knowledge and information because they play a main role in rebuilding the WUA. The FRL is expected to be linked to the field map for beneficially areas in both Buluto and Maliana I using satellite images.

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector)



< CAAKUB's payment to farmers >

1. CAAKUB Farmers Association's Membership Program

We supported the CAAKUB's paddy purchase. The CAAKUB has purchased 95.38 tons of paddy (including detect amount of chemical fertilizers) from 63 membership farmers and completed the payment by cash.

2. ACELDA company's Membership Program

We supported the ACELDA's paddy purchase. The ACELDA has purchased 23.88 tons of paddy from 16 membership farmers and completed the payment by cash.

3. Farmers' Market

Farmers' Market's financial system training including new barcode system started. The training will be conducted twice a week for 2 months.



< ACELDA's paddy purchase >

Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)



< NLC's support at bank>

1. Paddy purchase by National Logistic Center (NLC)

Finally the new paddy purchase prices (\$0.40 /Kg: NLC provides rice bags and transportation, and \$0.52 /Kg: Farmers directly bring paddy to NLC's warehouse with a minimum of 3 tons) was confirmed by Minister of Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs, and NLC is planning to start to purchase paddy at early July 2021. Estimation of purchased amount in both Buluto and Maliana I including surrounding areas is total 600 tons. NLC's staff has supported the farmers to establish 5 farmers groups and open bank accounts in accordance with the Standard Operation Procedure Ver 1.

2. Establishment of Rice Task Force

The Project and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) have confirmed the contents of new Joint Dispatch and TOR. After the Joint Dispatch and TOR are signed by all related Ministers, the first technical meeting will be held at the end of July, 2021.