Project News

April 2022



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



Harvest for 2022 Rainy Season Cultivation!

Output 1: Cultivation Techniques



< Harvest Ceremony in Maliana I >

Output 2: Irrigation Water Management



< Grease application in Buluto >

1. Progress of Rainy Season Farmer Field School (FFS) Activities

In this April, 5th Workshop on seed maintenance and 6th Workshop on harvest and postharvest have been conducted. In Maliana I site, cumulatively total 6 workshops were conducted with 83 participating farmers and 11 Extension workers. In Buluto site, total 5 workshops were conducted with 52 participating farmers and 7 Extension workers.

2. Progress of Rainy Season Cultivation

Approximately a half of farmers in Maliana I are harvesting and harvest is expected to be finished in the end of May. In Buluto, many farmers' field are still flowing stage while a few fields reached harvest. No serious pest or disease damage are observed. Growth monitoring and yield survey have been still conducted.

3. Harvest Ceremony

Harvest Ceremony were started in both Maliana I and Buluto sites. The first harvest ceremony in Buluto was done. Director of Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) Baucau and Subdistrict Administrator in Vemasse also attended this ceremony to motivate the farmers.

1. Activities in Buluto

The first Water Users' Association (WUA) Regular Secretariate Meeting, consisting of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasury of WUA, was held on April 5. In the meeting, 1. follow up of the trial Representative Meeting in March, 2. water distribution problems, 3. schedule of the next regular Secretariate Meeting were discussed under the leadership of President of WUA and support by Task Group (TG) members and the Project. Four Gate Keepers applied grease to the check gates and off-take gates from off-take No. 1 up to the end of No. 16 along the main canal under the support from municipal irrigation officers.

2. Activities in Maliana I

Municipal irrigation officer of Bobonaro continuously trained Gate Keepers in Maliana I to monitor water volume conditions at the 8 selected points on the secondary canal, to keep records following the Irrigation Management Manual (IMM), and to operate the off-take gates based on the IMM.

Preparation meeting for the General Assembly Meeting (Representative Meeting) was held on April 26 attended by President of the WUA and TG members. Trial Representative Meeting will be held in the middle of June.

3. Water Fee Collection in Maliana I

The water fee collection has been continued by the Chief of Canals and collected rate was about 32%. This activity will be continued until all farmers pay the fees.

1. Cooperation for CAAKUB Farmers Association

Output 3: Distribution and Sales (Private Sector) CAAKUB group leaders meeting was held on April 21 to discuss the use of 7 threshing machines among the farmers. CAAKUB received an order of 50 tons of milled rice from a private company, therefore, they mill their paddy with a milling machine with full operation. Also, we still supported CAAKUB for the registration process to sell milled rice to National Logistic Center (NLC).

Output 4: Purchasing and Distribution (Government Sector)



1. Socialization Workshop for NLC's Purchase Plan in Cailaco

Following Social Workshop held in Maliana I in March 2022, the Workshop on NLC's purchase plan was conducted at the surrounding area of Maliana I, Cailaco. NLC explained that they would purchase milled rice this year instead of paddy as before. Due to poor road conditions and lack of transportation, the farmers requested NLC to come to this area to pick milled rice up. But this request was not accepted by NLC.

2. Survey on Rice Miiling Machine in Buluto

We conduct a survey to check the number and capacity of milling machines in Buluto. We found that there were total 25 milling machines in Buluto area covering Manatuto, Laleia, Vemasse, Baucau, which total capacity was ranging from 25 to 48 tons paddy per day.

< Socialization Workshop in Cailaco >