1. Background

1.1. The Department of Agriculture (DA) is pushing for increased food sufficiency as an effort to ensure food availability, accessibility, and affordability as the country addresses the threat of food scarcity and hunger.

1.2. Thus, the Agri 4Ps – Plant, Plant, Plant Program, also known as the Ahon Lahat, Pagkaing Sapat Kontra COVID-19 or (ALPAS sa COVID-19) Program was established. One of the projects under this endeavor is the Rice Resiliency Project.

1.2. This Department, a member of the COVID-19 Food Resiliency Task Force, knows the impact of unstable global trade and food security on the Filipino people and is aware of the urgency because of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic and the coming of the wet season in the country.

1.3. Given the foregoing, this circular is issued to ensure increased local rice production.

2. Purpose

2.1. This Memorandum Circular is issued to direct all Local Government Units (LGUs) to participate in this endeavor and to align their actions with the Rise Resiliency Project.

3. Scope

3.1. All DILG Regional Directors and Field Officers, Provincial Governors, City/Municipal Mayors, Punong Barangay, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) Chief Minister, and all others concerned.

4. Policy Content and Guidelines

4.1. Section V, Roles of Participating Agencies/Units, of the DA Memorandum Circular 2020-19 states:
3. PLGU (Office of the Provincial Agriculturist)
   a. Assist in the conduct of information drive to farmers
   b. Assist the DA-RFO in setting the targets of the participating municipalities
   c. Coordinate with RFO and MLGUs regarding the schedule of delivery of seeds and fertilizers to drop-off points in the province or municipalities
   d. Supervise the distribution of inputs to farmers in the province
   e. Consolidate reports from MLGUs for submission to DA-RFO

4. MLGU (Office of the City/Municipal Agriculturist)
   a. Conduct information drive to farmers
   b. Prepare a prospective masterlist of farmer-beneficiaries based on RSBA
   c. Spearhead the distribution of inputs to farmers with documentation
   d. Submit schedule of deliveries of seeds and fertilizers including drop-off points in coordination with the PLGUs
   e. Submit masterlist of beneficiaries of both seeds and fertilizers properly acknowledged by the rice farmers in the prescribed format.”

5. Annex

   5.1. DA Memorandum Order No. 19, Series of 2020

6. Effectivity

   6.1. This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force unless otherwise superseded or modified by subsequent policies and other issuances.

   6.2. All DILG Regional Directors are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Circular.

7. Approving Authority

   [Signature]

   EDUARDO M. AÑO
   Secretary