

Nearly a million pesos worth of chickens sold amid COVID-19 Pandemic

A cumulative income ₱810,630.00 earned by the three farmers associations (FA) in Zamboanga del Norte this month.

The San Juan FA in the municipality of Sergio Osmeña sold 3,552 kilos of dressed chicken worth ₱ 408,480.00, to local store outlets and meat shops across neighboring municipalities, while De Venta Perla FA and Canibungan FA in the municipality of Polanco sold 1,694 kilos of chicken worth ₱ 194,800.00, and 1,803 kilos of chicken worth ₱207,350.00, respectively.

The chickens came from the Broiler Chicken Raising Livelihood Project of the Department of Agriculture IX – Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program, provided to the said farmers associations during one of the first distributions of SAAD 2017 livelihood interventions in the province of Zamboanga del Norte.

“This is our third roll over of the project and one of our biggest earnings this year, even when we have COVID threats. We thank the SAAD for the opportunity to be able to put up this kind of project for us. We faced some challenges during the implementation of this project, but this really helped us a lot financially. We commit our best to maintain this project and really give our time to make this successful for our association and our communities,” shared Maria Fe Mandaya, Auditor of the San Juan FA in Sergio Osmeña.

According to the SAAD local area coordinator Catherine Aranton, these associations have been working and preparing for harvest when the Covid pandemic hit the country and the concerns of marketing their produce became a challenge for them.

“For our part, we assured to stay connected with the farmers through open communications via text message or calls during the pandemic. We want to make sure the associations have a source of income in the midst of a crisis. We really are grateful for the support and assistance that the LGUs of Sergio Osmeña and Polanco municipalities have provided. The LGU transportation services provided to them were able to bring their products from the farm directly to the marketplace and meat shops.” Aranton said.

These are only three farmer associations among many others in the the province which have once again enjoyed the fruits of their labor, hard work and commitment to sustain the livelihood project provided by the DA-SAAD.
