

LAUNCHING OF CASH AND FOOD ASSISTANCE TO MARGINALIZED FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS IN REGION VI

December 8, 2020



Department of Agriculture Secretary William Dar delivering his message in the presence of Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson and hundreds of Negrense Farmers

The **Department of Agriculture** headed by Secretary William Dar with the **Sugar Regulatory Administration** as one of the implementing agencies, launched the Cash & Food Subsidy Program for marginalized farmers and fisher folks, which includes sugarcane farmers among the beneficiaries in Region VI at Pana-ad Park, Bacolod City last December 8, 2020.

Sec. William Dar was joined by DA-Western Visayas Regional Director Remelyn Recoter, Negros Occidental Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson and Atty. Ignacio S. Santillana, RDE Deputy Administrator in behalf of SRA Administrator Hermenegildo Serafica. Also present were other Mayors and government officials in the province.

The said program was initiated under the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act (Bayanihan 2) with an allocation of more or less 2.5 B for 890,000 target program-recipient, including

corn, coconut and sugarcane farmers and fisherfolk who shall receive P3,000 cash and food voucher worth P2,000 intended for rice, chicken and egg.



Ceremonial Turn-over of Food Vouchers to different farmers representative with Secretary Dar, Governor Lacson, Regional Director Recoter, stakeholders and MUAD representative.



The sugarcane farmers beneficiaries of cash and food subsidy from Murcia, Negros Occidental together with Deputy Administrator Atty. Ignacio Santillana and OIC Chief Agriculturist Miss Helen Lobaton.

An initial of 1,226 eligible sugarcane farmer beneficiaries for Cash and Food assistance which included thirty (30) eligible sugarcane farmers beneficiaries' from 3 different barangays in Murcia (Pandanon, Canlandog and Sta. Rosa) participated in the said launching ceremony.

These farmers were registered thru the Sugar Regulatory Administration - Extension Services Division Visayas and validated at the Registry System for Basic Sector in Agriculture (RSBSA)

The distribution of the food voucher was facilitated by the accredited supplier, the Multi-Sectoral Alliance for Development Negros – MUAD Negros. Each farmers received 25 kilos of rice, 2 trays of eggs and 3 whole dressed chickens. The remaining P3,000 will be claimed in cash via M Lhuiller Kwarta Padala.



Actual distribution of 25 kilos of rice, 2 trays of eggs and 3 whole dressed chickens to one of the sugarcane farmer beneficiary Mrs. Ceasa Awat.

The vouchers for the remaining eligible sugarcane beneficiaries for Visayas shall continue to be distributed this December 2020 and onwards.

Secretary William Dar also added that DA Budget for 2021 in Negros Occidental alone will be 768 million pesos allocated for farm machineries, productivity enhancement support program and income generating support program to enable our farmers to reach their utmost potential for food productivity. *"We cannot fight this global pandemic if we do not have enough food supply to nourish our health"* Sec. Dar said.

In light of the pandemic COVID 19, social distancing and other health protocols were strictly followed during the said event by all participants including guest and visitors.

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