

## **Paquibato People's Organizations start to harvest produce from technology upscaling program**

Members of People's Organization (POs) in Paquibato, District, Davao City are now starting to reap the vegetables they have planted as part of technology upscaling program.

A memorandum of agreement (MOA) was ink between the Department of Agriculture (DA) and 1003rd IB during the recent visit of Secretary William D. Dar at the Camp General Manuel Yan, Mawab, Davao de Oro in September.

The MOA formalized the collaboration of DA and 1003rd IB to implement agricultural projects in conflict-affected areas in the Davao region.

With the help of Department of Agriculture -XI (DA-XI) Research team and in collaboration with 1003rd IB, and Davao City Agri Office, have moved on a fast lane to accelerate the implementation of sustainable agriculture projects for peace and development in Paquibato District, Davao City.

Embracing a "whole of nation approach", 11 sites of PO's including Gulayan sa Kabatan-onan in conflict affected areas are covered by various technology-based livelihood projects which include Upscaling of Adlai Production, Mushroom Production, and Vegetable Production. Market of these vegetables are now being linked with Kadiwa and other market outlets to ensure farmers get a fair price of their produce.

Darces Manambulan and DaCARS in Mati City, Davao Oriental are also providing product development trainings for mushroom to add value in their products.

"In our consultation with POs conflict-affected areas such as Paquibato, agricultural interventions such as vegetable production is among the top projects they have identified to provide them immediate livelihood and income," said DA-XI Regional Director Ricardo Onate, Jr.

"We are glad that our collaboration with the 1003rd ID is now starting to yield promising results and hopefully we can restore peace and order as well as provide sustainable development in this remote communities," he added. | via RAFIS XI

Photo caption: Member of Paquibato People's Organizations are now harvesting vegetable they planted in June providing them source of income.

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