

## Series of 2022

## ESTABLISHING THE OCCIDENTAL MINDORO AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION CENTER (OMAFEC) AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS,** the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997 (AFMA) declares the policy of the State to promote science and technology as essential for national development and progress and that the State shall give priority for the utilization of research results through formal and non-formal education, extension, and training services;

WHEREAS, agricultural and fisheries extension (AFE) serves as a major instrument in agriculture modernization especially in enhancing rural livelihoods and in making food available and affordable to all Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, despite the greater attention afforded to the agriculture and fisheries sectors in the past years, weak AFE services have lingered over time which slowed down the utilization of smart agriculture and fisheries technologies responsive to the needs of farmers and fisherfolk in the Province;

**WHEREAS**, Occidental Mindoro aspires to further elevate and sustain itself as a food secure and self-sufficient Province with shared leadership and management, stronger resiliency and adaptive capacity in agriculture and fisheries through science-based innovations shared through vigorous AFE services;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code, has no provision for the direct control of Provincial LGUS (PLGUS) over Municipal/City LGUs (MCLGUS) in developing and implementing agriculture programs. Likewise, the main players (i.e., Department of Agriculture Regional Field Offices, bureaus and attached agencies; state universities and colleges (SUCs); and the private sector pursue their own programs in the Province, resulting to weak research-extension-farmer linkages. The outcome is a fragmented and ineffective agriculture and fisheries extension delivery system;

WHEREAS, even as the AFMA mandates PLGUS to integrate and evaluate MCLGU extension programs, attaining economies of scale for greater productivity and impact is a big challenge at the municipal/city level;

WHEREAS, to ensure smooth implementation of all AFE programs whether funded by LGUS, the national government, private agencies/entities, and/or foreign donors, there is an imperative need to establish a single entity to serve as a unitary umbrella in planning and implementing such AFE programs in the Province;

WHEREAS, the Province of Occidental Mindoro signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and partners to establish and manage the Occidental Mindoro Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Center in collaboration with various public, private and civil society organizations in the Province.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I EDUARDO B. GADIANO,** Governor of the Province of Occidental Mindoro by virtue of powers vested in me by law do hereby order:

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Executive Order mandates the establishment of an "Occidental Mindoro Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Center (OMAFEC)" as the operational arm of the Occidental Mindoro Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (OMAFES).

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS. The Center shall perform the following functions:

- a. Lead the development and implementation of a Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Program (PAFEP) guided by the Provincial Commodity Investment Plan (PCIP) and Value Chain Analysis (VCA) of priority commodities.
- b. Integrate the Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Program with the Comprehensive Provincial Development Plan (CPDP).
- c. Coordinate the operations of Municipal LGU extensionists and mobilize technical support of subject matter specialists from the Occidental Mindoro State College (OMSC), private sector, and civil society partners in implementing the Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Program.
- d. Lead the establishment of viable agro-enterprises and setting up of corresponding technology adaptation/demonstration farms, capacity building, conduct of field days. and other related activities in collaboration with partner agencies in the Province.
- e. Link farmers and fisherfolk with markets and provide custom services in the whole agriculture and fisheries value chain.
- f. Submit quarterly reports to the Management Committee on the progress and achievements of the Center, and if there are bottlenecks, the critical steps taken to overcome them.

**SECTION 3. PROGRAMS.** The Center shall develop and pursue the following flagship programs in collaboration with partners of OMAFES:

**Agro-enterprise development** - establishing enterprises to enhance rural livelihoods based on the value chains of priority commodities of the Provincial Commodity Investment Plan (PCIP).

Location-Specific Technology Development and Demonstration – testing, adaptation and onfarm/on coast demonstration of new, improved and climate resilient agriculture and fisheries technologies in strategic locations of the Province in collaboration with the private sector, farmers and fisherfolk.

**Capacity Building** - massive training of LGU agricultural extension workers, farmers, fisherfolk, rural women and the youth on agro-enterprise development and improved agriculture and fisheries production, processing and marketing technologies,

**Information/Knowledge Sharing** - timely provision of technical, market and weather advisory through personal and electronic (i.e., mass media, mobile phone and computer-based) channels.

**Institutional Strengthening** - enhancing capacities of MCLGUSs in planning and managing agricultural extension; providing complementary incentives and benefits for AEWS; upgrading and establishing LGU physical facilities and acquisition of equipment/transport for AFE.

**SECTION 4. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.** The Center shall be supervised by a **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** composed of the following:

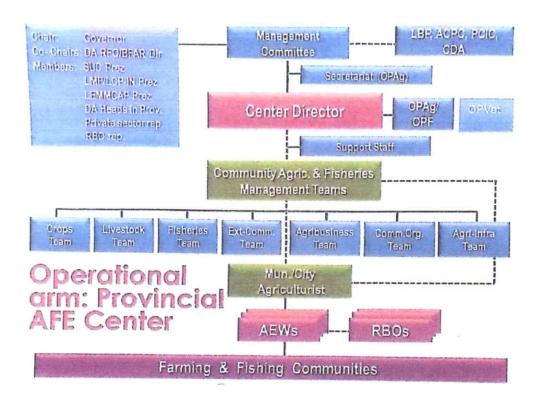
Chair: Provincial Governor

Co-Chairs: DA-RFO IVB Regional Executive Director & BFAR ROIVB Director

#### Members:

- MSC President/VP for Research and Extension;
- Heads of DA bureaus/agencies in the Province (ATI, BFAR ROIVB, NFA, NTA, PCA, Phil Rice.);
- Presidents of the League of Municipalities in Occidental Mindoro;
- President of the League of Municipal Agriculturists/Municipal Agricultural Officers in Occidental Mindoro;
- President of the Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Network (RAFEN);
- · Head of NIA in the Province;
- Chair of the Provincial Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (PAFC);
- RBO representatives

### Organization and Management System of the Occidental Mindoro Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Center



The OMAFEC shall be headed by a **CENTER DIRECTOR** appointed by the Provincial Governor. Municipal agricultural extension workers (AEWs) shall be technically supervised by the PAFEC and backstopped by the multi-disciplinary Community Agriculture and Fisheries Management Teams

(i.e., crops, livestock, fisheries, agribusiness, extension-communication, community organizing, agri-infrastructure) detailed from partner agencies of OMAFES.

Frontline services shall be led by Municipal Agriculturists with their corresponding Agriculture Extension Workers (AEWS) who shall be technically supervised by the Center Director in implementing the Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Program. Notwithstanding this, the Mas and AEWs shall remain administratively under the Municipal mayors. Administrative support and project monitoring shall be provided by the OPA-MAR.

#### SECTION 5. TERMS AND REFERENCE OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

- a) Set the strategic direction and agenda of OMAFES for the Province consistent with national and regional agriculture development plans.
- b) Promulgate policies of OMAFES to be implemented by the Center.
- c) Approve the Province-led agriculture and fisheries extension program and corresponding annual budget of OMAFEC and endorse these to the Secretary of Agriculture for cofinancing.
- d) Appoint/detail human resources and provide oversight to the programs and operations of OMAFEC.
- e) Meet every quarter to monitor the progress of implementing the Province-led agriculture and fisheries extension program.

#### SECTION 6. TERMS AND REFERENCE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR.

- a) Lead the development and implementation of the Province-led agriculture and fisheries extension program.
- Formulate the annual work and financial plan of the Center for approval by the Management Committee.
- c) Supervise the operations of Municipal LGU extensionists and coordinate technical support of subject matter specialists from OMAFEC partners.
- d) Prepare quarterly reports to the Management Committee on the progress and achievements of the Center.
- e) Provide administrative and secretarial support to the Management Committee.

# SECTION 7. TERMS AND REFERENCE OF THE COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT TEAMS (I.E., CROPS, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES, AGRIBUSINESS, EXTENSION-COMMUNICATION, COMMUNITY ORGANIZING, AGRI INFRASTRUCTURE).

- a) Assist the Center in developing the Province-led agriculture and fisheries extension program.
- b) Assist the Center in establishing and nurturing agro-based enterprises in the Province.

- Serve as multi-disciplinary resource persons to the capacity building programs of the Center.
- d) Serve as roving teams of advisors in providing technical support and advisory services to Municipal AEWs in the Province.
- e) Link OMAFES with resource/technology providers within and outside the Province.

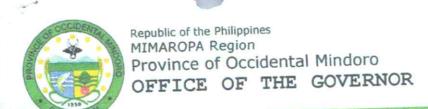
**SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid for any reason, the parts not affected thereby shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

**Section 9. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All Executive Orders, Rules and Regulations issued by this province which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, superseded or modified accordingly.

Section 10. EFFECTIVITY. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE at the Provincial Capitol, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022.

EDUARDO B GADIANO Governor







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