



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REGION III - PROVINCE OF BATAAN

FOR : **Dir. JULIE J. DAQUIOAG, Ph.D., CESO IV**
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THRU : **REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (RCC)**
DILG Regional Office III

SUBJECT : **DOCUMENTED BEST PRACTICE**

DATE : **OCTOBER 26, 2017**

Pursuant to the directive on the above-stated subject and as agreed on the meeting of **RCC / Information Officers of Different Programs and Projects of DILG-R03** on October 18, 2017 at the DILG Regional Office, attached is a Documented Best Practice of the City of Balanga entitled **"Kasama... Ani sa Barangay (KaAniB): Organic Agriculture and Gardening in the City of Balanga"**

For your information and reference.


MYRA B. MORAL-SORIANO, CESO V
Provincial Director

1. TITLE

Kasama... Ani sa Barangay (KaAniB): Organic Agriculture and Gardening in the City of Balanga

2. SUMMARY

The program aims to provide additional income and food security for low-income families in the City of Balanga, promoting organic agriculture by converting vacant lots previously used as garbage dumpsite into communal vegetable garden.

It is a daily activity of the CENRO personnel wherein vacant lots that are being utilized as mini-dumpsite in the barangay are transformed into a more productive area for vegetable gardening.

The identified site shall be cleaned and converted into a KaAniB Garden. A compost pit is also established in the area to cater the biodegradable wastes that is used as soil enhancer.

This project motivates the residents in the barangay by keeping their surroundings clean and green and now really believes that “Kay sarap manirahan sa malinis na pamayanan”. This strategy is one of the voluntary approaches in reducing waste at source.

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

KaAniB is a project of then city mayor now 2nd district congressman Jose Enrique “Joet” Garcia III being implemented for the past eight years where idle lands in 25 barangays in the City of Balanga are converted into small vegetable gardens.

Challenges:

One of the challenges of the program is during the dry season or “El Niño”, where plants and crops are affected by the dry and hot weather. Though these incidents happen, the drop of income of the residents is not too drastic.

Mayor Francis Garcia and the city council distribute bags of urea fertilizers to the farmers affected by the El Nino phenomenon thru the support of Congressman Joet Garcia and the Department of Agriculture Regional Office. Mayor Garcia also gives financial assistance to the city farmers through the “Plant Now Pay Later Program” giving every farmer a P15 thousand working capital without any interest or collateral from the farmers.

Local officials likewise lamented the youth’s growing lack of interest in agriculture. Many young people nowadays do not want to get their hands “dirty and muddy” on planting.

To address this concern, local officials encourages the barangay folks to always include the youth in their agriculture-related programs, especially in KaAniB activities. Officials have high hopes for KaAniB to become the city’s prime program to rekindle interest in agriculture among young people.

4. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES



- Status of implementation : Started in 2008 and still operational
- Focal Unit/Person/s : Mr. Armando Balbuena (CENRO Personnel)
- Details on any technology utilized in the strategy:
Conversion of garbage dumpsite in the barangay into a KaAniB Garden

- Audience Type and Size : **Vacant lots available in the barangay, no required land area**

- Average Duration and Cost of running the strategy:
Farm Inputs are provided by the City Agriculture Office

- Expected Output : - **Clean and Green Environment**
 - **Provision of healthy, safe and affordable agricultural products for Balanguenos**
 - **Healthy Community**

5. PROJECT RESULT/ IMPACT

The city government has been implementing KaAniB Program since 2008. KaAniB's eight years of implementation is proof of its sustainability and importance as a government intervention program on the problem of food and livelihood at the grassroots level.

In 2012, Pres. Benigno Aquino III awarded the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Pagasa Award to KaAniB as the country's first comprehensive program on small-scale farming.

The KaAnib Program is a community's bounty. It is also a crucial program for the economic progress of all barangays. According to a mentor in organic farming, planters/growers can earn as much as P20,000.00 per harvest season. Further, in case of a dry season/spell, a small-scale vegetable farm could yield a P10,000.00-worth of organic goods.

Said mentors in organic farming are holding trainings in various barangays. They are also inviting all sectors of the community, from senior citizens down to students.

The City Agriculture Office and its community partners are scouting more lands that are potential for small-scale farming, as the City Mayor, Francis Anthony Garcia, ranks agriculture as one of his main concerns.

- ***KaAnib Program Impacts in Brgy. Cataning, City of Balanga***

Vegetable agriculture was an accomplishment and a positive impact since the community of Cataning, Balanga City puts it into practice. More than 100 families are benefited by the KaAniB program. The people in the village of Cataning are helping to do the vegetable growing in sitios of Miray (1,000 sq. m) and Ugong (900 sq. m).

Cucumber, eggplant, and tomato are being sowed in Brgy. Cataning. A group of women served as farmers at the farm in Sitio Miray while village people do the farming at Sitio Ugong. The residents have been harvesting vegetables from the village farms and back yards. The crops to be sold were branded as Balanga's Fresh. The farmers can earn P30,000. Then City of Balanga Mayor Joet Garcia formulated the program to help the city residents to gain more income.

The city government provides the vegetable seeds, organic fertilizer and technical assistance to the residents. They recommend the production and use of organic fertilizers.