FAMILY FARMERS RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Presented by: Jumer Marcaida, Young Farmer Representative

21 July 2020
Impact of the current pandemic

• Limitations in mobility in doing farm work
  ✓ Limited mode of transportation
  ✓ Restrictions in going out (21 years old and below)

• Difficulty in accessing educational opportunities
  ✓ Shift to online mode of application and admission (scholarships, enrolment)

• Difficulty in organizing and participating to online activities and discussions due to limited internet connections especially in remote/rural areas
  ✓ Participation to meetings, workshops, webinars, school-on-the-air programs for capacity building

• Difficulty in accessing government programs
  ✓ Lack of adequate information on how to avail existing projects/programs
  ✓ Inconsistent approach of local government units in providing relief and support

• Marketing and processing of produce
  ✓ Delivery of farmers produce
  ✓ Processing areas
  ✓ Processing equipment
Initiatives/Interventions

- Establishment of young farmers cooperative farm
  ✓ Provision of agri-extension services and support to the young farmers (in production, organizing, etc)

- Establishment of local food market
  ✓ Economic empowerment and strengthened collaboration with LGU

- Utilizing social media for online marketing of products

- Continued engagement and partnership with government agencies and non-government agencies
  ✓ Strengthening 3Ps (Public and Private Partnership)

- Participation to online discussions organized by various groups and networks
  ✓ Dialogue with food frontliners
  ✓ Attendance and participation in meetings, workshops, webinar

- Sharing of blessings (support from the government generated then shared to other groups)

- Organized youth groups (within the mother organization/coop) as key strategy in pushing the agenda of the young farmers/high time to raise their voice
Key Recommendations

- Creation of young farmers committee within the mother organization/association
  - Strengthening the role of young farmers
  - Farm take over to govern and cultivate the land they inherited or bought from their parents

- Full value chain support to family farmers from production, processing and marketing
  - Provision of farm inputs and machineries
  - Provision of incentives (recognition to the outstanding family farmers, etc)

- Continued engagement with government agencies and for public program accessing and partnership

- Continued engagement and partnership with development partners

- Utilize various social media platforms to attract youth in agriculture
  - IEC Materials (print and audio-visual materials)
  - Cross-sectoral approach and ensuring gender justice in farming: young farmers, young fishers, young IP farmers, young women farmers
  - Recognition of young farmers as sectors of the community

- Lobbying for the enactment of proposed legislations that will benefit and recognize the rights of family farmers
  - Magna Carta of Family Farmers
  - Magna Carta of Young Farmers
  - Family Farmers Program
Linking farmers to consumers

- Food Pack Distribution
- Online Home Delivery Services
- Farmers Market

Even though life is difficult especially when we are in the midst of a crisis, it is really a great help to our organization to be given the opportunity to sell our products. We do not want to rely solely on relief goods that are insufficient to meet the daily needs of our families. Through selling our products, it helped our livelihood with the support and assistance of PPAAPAN, NTFFP, and other support groups. High time also to pay attention to the farmers. Farmers play a major role in society which provides the basic needs of the people, especially in food.
Strengthening the coop market enterprise

- Value addition
- Local marketing
Rolling women-led vegetable store

- Lakambini, Bulan, Sorsogon
Backyard gardening and diversified farming

• No farmer, no food, no future!
Continued partnership with government and development partners
Young Farmers in Action
Young Farmers in Action
Young Farmers in Action

BANASI YOUNG FARMERS ORGANIZATION

GULAYAN SA
COMMUNITY PROJECT

ZONE 5 SITIO BANASI, PAWILI, BULA, CAMARINES SUR
Young Farmers in Action
Support Young Farmers!

Support Food Frontliners!
Alone I am weak, but with others I am strong!

And if we are together, we are stronger!

Cooperation is the solution!