

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES ENGINEERING (BAFE)

Diliman, Quezon City

Tel. No. (02) 294-6452 Fax No. (02) 941-8151 | Email Add: oed.bafe@gmail.com

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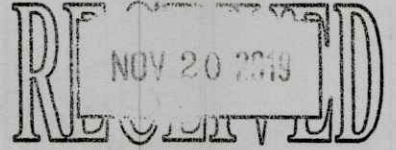
DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. 12

Series of 2019

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BAFE



SUBJECT : ESTABLISHING THE INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGE AND STRENGTHENING COORDINATION BETWEEN THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES ENGINEERING AND THE REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DIVISION OF THE REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10601, otherwise known as the Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization (AFMech) Law created the Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE) and institutionalize the Regional Agricultural Engineering Division of the Regional Field Offices (RFO-RAED) to ensure adequate and timely provision of agricultural and fisheries engineering services at the national and regional levels;

WHEREAS, the BAFE and RFO-RAED are both mandated to oversee the planning, design preparation, implementation, monitoring and regulations of agricultural and fisheries engineering, mechanization, and infrastructure programs and projects of DA at the national and regional levels, respectively;

WHEREAS, the AFMech Law and its Implementing Rules and Regulations prescribe an identical organizational structure for BAFE and RFO-RAED, particularly a structure consisting of three divisions/sections focusing on a) Program and Projects Management, b) Engineering Plans, Designs and Specifications, and c) Standards Regulations and Enforcement;

WHEREAS, in support to AFMech Law, there is a need to further strengthen the linkages between BAFE and RFO-RAED and clearly define their coordination mechanism in order to ensure the congruence of synchronized plans and efforts thereby contributing to enhanced delivery of agricultural and fisheries engineering, mechanization, and infrastructure services in DA;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by the law, hereby issue this Department Order directing further support to AFMech Law by establishing and implementing the institutional link and coordination that will effectively and efficiently connect BAFE and RFO-RAED and ensure their operational coherence.

SECTION I OBJECTIVES

This Department Order aims to

1. Institute an effective linkage, appropriate level of coordination and organizational arrangements that will clearly define relationships, facilitate exchange of information and data, and enhance reporting and monitoring systems between BAFE and RFO-RAED; and
2. Establish and institutionalize a mechanism for the unified development, design, implementation, and regulation of national and regional agricultural and fisheries engineering, mechanization, and infrastructure work programs and services based on agreed national policies, guidelines, and standards.

SECTION II FUNCTIONAL LINKAGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In compliance to AFMech Law and the DBM-approved Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern of BAFE and RFO-RAED, the following functional linkages and responsibilities shall be observed and complied with:

1. Functional Linkages
 - a. The Undersecretary for Operations and Agri-Fisheries Mechanization shall provide overall supervision and oversight in the implementation of agricultural and fisheries engineering, mechanization, and infrastructure programs and projects of DA.
 - b. The Regional Executive Directors shall provide general directions in the prioritization and implementation of agricultural and fisheries engineering, mechanization, and infrastructure programs and projects of DA at the regional level.
 - c. The BAFE shall provide technical leadership, guidance and capacity building to RFO-RAEDs relative to the planning, preparation of engineering plans, design and specification, procurement, implementation, monitoring, and regulations of agricultural and fishery engineering, mechanization, and infrastructure programs and projects of DA.
 - d. The RFO-RAED shall work closely with BAFE in coordinating and implementing the guidelines, programs and projects.
2. Responsibilities of BAFE
 - a. Formulate and update the National Agricultural and Fishery Mechanization Program (NAFMechP) as well as the national plans and

road maps for Farm-to-Market Roads (FMR) and other agricultural and fisheries infrastructures;

- b. Oversee and coordinate the formulation of guidelines in the planning, implementation, and regulations of agricultural and fisheries mechanization, Farm-to-Market Roads, contiguous farming, use of renewable energy and other agricultural and fisheries infrastructure projects;
- c. Coordinate, monitor, assess, and integrate the implementation of the NAFMechP, mechanization, FMR, irrigation and other agricultural and fisheries engineering projects of DA;
- d. Develop, establish and maintain national Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Management Information System (ABEMIS) which facilitates information exchange as well as provide timely status, analysis and recommendation relative to mechanization, FMR, irrigation and other agricultural and fisheries engineering projects of DA and other agencies;
- e. Prepare general agricultural and fisheries engineering designs, plans, specifications and cost estimates based on PAES or any acceptable standards in coordination with other concerned agencies;
- f. Coordinate, review, evaluate and recommend agricultural and fisheries engineering designs, technical specifications and tender contract documents emanating from Regional Field Offices and other concerned agencies;
- g. Conduct field surveys, site inspections and validation of proposed agricultural and fisheries mechanization and infrastructure projects submitted at the national;
- h. Provide technical assistance to pre-qualification of bidders and analysis of bids for recommendation/ submission to Bids and Awards Committee;
- i. Monitor and enforce standards, issue Certificate of Conformity and Permit-to-Operate, and implement registration and other regulatory policies on mechanization, irrigation, farm-to-market roads and other agricultural and fisheries engineering;
- j. Plan and implement capability enhancement programs for concerned bureaus, Regional Field Offices (RFOs) and other stakeholders in agricultural and fisheries mechanization, planning, project development, implementation, management and regulation; and
- k. Provide technical and administrative assistance to the RFO-RAEDs.

3. Responsibilities of RFO-RAED

- a. Formulate and update the Regional Agricultural and Fishery Mechanization Program (RAFMechP) and other regional agricultural infrastructures, irrigation, mechanization, postharvest facilities and agro processing development/master plans in coordination with LGUs, NGA and other groups at the regional level
- b. Coordinate and implement the guidelines in the planning, implementation, and regulations of agricultural and fisheries mechanization, Farm-to-Market Roads, contiguous farming, use of renewable energy and other agricultural and fisheries infrastructure projects;
- c. Coordinate, monitor and evaluate, and integrate the implementation of the RAFMP, mechanization, FMR and other agricultural and fisheries infrastructure projects at the regional level;
- d. Supervise, monitor and report to BAFE the status of the provision/construction of irrigation, mechanization, postharvest facilities, and other related engineering and infrastructure projects of DA;
- e. Maintain regional Agricultural and Biosystem Engineering Management information system (ABEMIS), which will include the inventory and status of implementation of all agricultural and fisheries machinery and equipment, irrigation, Farm-to-Market Roads and other related infrastructures. The said database shall be linked and consolidated by BAFE at the national level;
- f. Provide technical assistance to the project management and information database of the Local Agricultural Engineering Offices at the municipality and provincial levels;
- g. Prepare plan, design, specification and cost estimate of all regional agricultural engineering and related program, projects and activities;
- h. Coordinate, review, evaluate and recommend appropriate regional agricultural and fisheries engineering designs, technical specifications and tender contract documents emanating from LGUs and other offices;
- i. Conduct field surveys, site inspections and validation of proposed agricultural and fisheries mechanization and infrastructure projects submitted at the region;
- j. Assist BAFE in the conduct of regional monitoring and enforcement of standards, registration, issuance of Certificate of Conformity and Permit-to-Operate, and implementation of other regulatory policies on agricultural and fisheries engineering, irrigation and farm-to-market roads;

- k. Conduct institutional and capacity development activities to support and sustain the operation and management of constructed infrastructure and distributed machinery facilities; and
- l. Provide technical assistance to LGUs in establishing and implementing mechanisms including issuance of ordinances that will ensure effective and efficient delivery of agricultural engineering services.


SECTION III MONITORING AND SUBMISSION OF REPORTS


The BAFE and RFO-RAED shall meet quarterly to discuss progress of agricultural engineering works, accomplishments, issues and problems encountered, and recommendations for improved delivery of services in the DA.

The RFO-RAED shall update its regional ABEMIS every first week of the month, which will be consolidated and processed/analyzed by BAFE. A quarterly written report and as deemed necessary shall be prepared and submitted to the Office of the Secretary through the Office of the Undersecretary for Operations and Agri-Fisheries Mechanization.

SECTION IV EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until revoked or amended. All other Circulars, Orders and issuances inconsistent hereto are deemed revoked.


WILLIAM D. DAR, PhD
Acting Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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