



**A REPORT ON THE PROFILING OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRACTITIONERS
IN THE THIRD ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT OF DAVAO CITY
DECEMBER 2015**

Project period: August 1-September 30, 2015

Project area: Third Administrative District of Davao City

Project objectives: a) To validate, assess and improve the initial baseline data of Organic Agriculture Practitioners in Davao City and b) gather recommendations to ensure full implementation of the Organic Agriculture Ordinance.

Expected Output: Enhanced consolidated data of organic agriculture practitioners in Davao City.

Background

The profiling of OA practitioners is part of the Watershed Management project of the Interface Development Initiatives (IDIS) and was implemented in collaboration with the City Agriculturist's Office (CAO). IDIS contracted the services of Jean Marie M. Ferraris (hereinafter referred to as the researcher) to gather secondary data, conduct focus group discussion with organic farmers and key informant interviews with local officials, and other informants where applicable. To ensure smooth implementation of the profiling, IDIS staff conducted consultations and meetings with CAO-OIC Mr. Rocelio T. Tabay and Mr. Joselito Tabora, Organic Agriculture Program Coordinator prior to the actual conduct of the survey. They also solicited the consent of members of the Go Organic Davao City (GO-DC): Farmcoop, Metsa Foundation, SIMCARRD and Josefa Segovia Foundation (JSF). The researcher also asked the consent of FGD and KII participants.

Difficulties and problems encountered

However, despite clear coordination with CAO, the district offices still raised some issues about the project. Agri-technicians (AT) questioned the timing of the project¹ and a few even casted doubt on the intent of the profiling. They were also worried that the survey would affect their workload. Mary Ann Fuertes, IDIS Executive Director, immediately relayed the feedback to Mr. Tabay for appropriate action. They also met with MAO-Calinan District to settle the issues.

Several factors also hindered the researcher from conducting at least one FGD in one to two barangays serviced by the district offices such as unavailability of farmers in Carmen, Baguio; not enough time during the PGS briefing in Marilog to conduct the FGD²; two members were sick, and difficulty in scheduling meetings with the Toril and Tugbok Offices.

On the other hand, GO-DC members extended full support to the researcher. FGDs were conducted with their local farmer organizations -- Sobagromco, Papcobagrow & Sagopco in Sibulan, Talomo Women's Organization (TWO) in Barangay Talomo River and MASIA in Barangay Sirib, both in Calinan on Aug. 18, 19 and Sept. 3, respectively. Most of the FGD participants were women.

Interviews were conducted with Mr. Dodong Santos, Gina Ibabao of Inayangan, Calinan, Lunhaw awardees Vidala Ebon, Zandro Gaitano, and Cris Nisa of the Imulayan Resource Center, Dr. Gloria Marquez of the City Veterinarian's Office and Mr. Glenn Gayanilo of the Dept. of Agriculture (DA) Regional Office. The researcher was not able to interview Mr. Tabay because he was always out of the office.

¹ Four district offices submitted inventory reports to Mr. Tabora in December 2014 while the Baguio Office submitted its report in June this year. IDIS conducted its first survey in November 2014.

² MAO Luis Aninon of Marilog Office had previously assured her that she would be given enough time during the PGS briefing to interview the participants.

Due to delay in the turnover of survey forms, the project had to be extended for another two months. Yet, as of December 3, the district offices have so far turned over 108 forms only. The Toril office has not turned over a single survey form. JSF has promised that they will submit at least thirty forms before the year-end.

According to CAO data, there are 291 organic farmers (with thirty-six farmers from Baguio practicing “chemical-less farming”) and five organizations engaged in organic agriculture projects in the third administrative district. There are 120 organic farmers per IDIS data.

District	CAO Inventory as of Dec. 2014	IDIS inventory as of No. 2014	# of survey forms turned-over as of Dec. 3, 2015
Baguio	52	5	17 (Carmen)
Calinan	39	23	44 (Sirib, Lamanan, Talomo River)
Marilog	20	7	7 (Marilog)
Toril	61	54	14 (Farm Coop-assisted communities in Sibulan)
Tugbok	119	31	26 (Ula, Biao Guianga, Bago Oshiro, Tugbok, Angalan)
Organizations	5	4	
Total	291/5	120/4	108

The results of the FGDs and KIIs were presented to the Technical Committee on Organic Agriculture (TCOA) on Dec. 2 and during the celebration of the Organic Day on Dec. 4 at Mergrande Resort in Toril, Davao City.

Summary of results of the FGDs and KIIs

“Organic agriculture provides farmers with opportunities to innovate and develop appropriate farming practices and technology.”
Tagabawa farmer

A. Advantages/Benefits of Organic Agriculture

Respondents said that organic farming is beneficial and sustainable because it entails fewer costs and farmers can plant diverse crops even with just a small capital. Farmers might find it difficult at the start especially when they are transitioning from conventional farming because it takes a long time for the soil to recover its lost nutrients and producing organic inputs takes time. But once farmers adopt organic farming as a way of life, they will appreciate the importance of replenishing soil fertility through composting and other methods that are not harmful to people’s health and the environment.

1. Health benefits

By practicing organic farming, small farmers produce safe and nutritious food for their families and consumers. They also contribute in making the environment clean and safe from harmful pesticides. Food security is ensured and malnutrition among women, especially pregnant and lactating mothers,

and children is addressed. Respondents say that they are able to sleep well at night knowing that their families are safe from synthetic pesticides.

2. Economic benefits

The 40.46 hectare-certified organic banana plantation in the ancestral domain of the Bagobo-Tagabawa tribe in Sibulan has provided jobs to indigenous peoples resulting to fewer overseas workers (OFWs) among the lumad in the area. They are also able to send their children to school. The plantation is managed by indigenous farmers belonging to the Sibulan Organic Banana Growers Multi-Purpose Cooperative (Sobagromco) and Pamara Producers Cooperative of Organic Banana Growers (Papcobagrow) in partnership with Farmcoop, a non-government organization that provides support services to farmers' cooperatives in Mindanao. The lumad farmers started practicing organic farming in 2004 when the Sibulan barangay council adopted organic agriculture as main farming practice.

According to a Business World article published on Feb. 4, 2014, farmers sell 1,300 boxes of Cavendish banana per week to Farmcoop at \$7.33 (approx. 330.00) per box, twice the price of conventionally produced bananas, providing the two cooperatives with earnings of 1.5 million pesos. Each box has a net weight of 13.5 kilos. Farmcoop exports the bananas to Japan.

Gina Ibabao of Inayangan, Calinan earns 4,000.00 to 8,000.00 by selling vegetables, bananas, and root crops at the Friday Organic Market where prices are 5.00 to 10.00 higher than conventional produce sold in public markets. She is proud to have been able to send one of her children to Tesda out of her earnings from selling organic crops. Gina has been practicing organic farming for a year.

The Calinan-based women farmers' organizations, MASIA and Talomo Women's Organization (TWO), also confirmed the economic benefits of organic farming even as they have to engage too in other economic activities like washing plastic bags for SUMIFRU to augment family incomes.

3. Socio-cultural benefits

The use of organic farming system ensures the preservation of forests and traditional variety of trees and plants. This in turn guarantees the protection of the ancestral domain, traditional knowledge, and cultures.

The Bagobo-Tagabawa of Sibulan and some Bagobo-Diangan members of MASIA³ are still using their traditional moon calendar as guide for planting and harvesting crops. They also practice their indigenous way of seed banking. The Tagabawa people have learned new ways of nourishing the soils and sustaining natural ecosystems. Organic farming has become a lifelong learning process for this people and they said that the practice has enhanced indigenous knowledge and increased their knowledge base. It allows them to innovate and develop more appropriate and sustainable farming practices and technologies. In the past, they used the slash and burn method in growing food.

More women are into organic farming and could now be leading the way in mainstreaming organic agriculture in the third district. Many of them are growing their own "food always in the house" (FAITH) gardens or backyard vegetable gardens. MASIA farmers said that even though their husbands are working at DAVCO pineapple plantation, their husbands are supportive of their decision to practice organic farming.

³ Seventy-five percent of MASIA members are Bagobo-Diangan.

B. Crops

Farmcoop-assisted communities	MASIA farmers	TWO farmers
Banana, abaca, vegetables (lettuce, tomatoes, bok choy, broccoli, pepper, carrots and potatoes), herbs and root crops	Fruit trees (cacao, coconut, lanzones, durian) and vegetables (eggplant, beans, kangkong, saluyot, tomatoes, spinach, ampalaya)	Fruit trees (banana, cacao, coconut, lanzones, durian, rambutan, mangosteen) and vegetables (okra, beans, cucumber, ampalaya, patola, upo, alugbati, camote tops, kangkong, eggplant, saluyot)

Most of the farmers grow vegetables for consumption only using natural farming system.

C. Organic Fertilizers and Pesticides

Organization	Organic Fertilizers Used	Organic Pesticides Used
Farmcoop-assisted communities	Compost, champ organic fertilizer, Foliar ⁴	Oriental herb nutrient (OHN) ⁵ , cacawati,
MASIA	Vermicast, salt, compost,	Panyawan
TWO	Vermicast, compost/organic mix, urine, animal manure, fermented plant/fruit juice (FPJ/FFJ) ⁶ , indigenous microorganism (IMO) ⁷	3 kinds, vinegar, OHN, sili, panyawan
Vidala Ebon	Vermicast, compost, animal manure	
Zandro Gaitano	Vermicast, compost, IMO, FPJ/FJJ	IMO (Lactic acid bacteria serum, calcium phosphate nutrient solution)
Gina Ibabao	Compost	none
Imulayan	Animal manure, lactic acid as antibiotics for pigs and chickens, FPJ/FJJ, IMO	OHN

Sobagromco and Papcobagrow get their regular supply of farm inputs from Farmcoop.

⁴ Foliar feeding is a technique of feeding plants by applying liquid fertilizer directly to the leaves. (Wikipedia)

⁵ Oriental Herb Nutrient (OHN) is a natural pest repellent. It is used throughout the early vegetative and change over and fruiting stages. It is a very important input in natural farming wherein it develops the immune system of the plant and animals.

⁶ Fermented plant juice (FPJ) and Fermented plant juice (FFJ) are fertilizers which are made of plant raw materials like banana suckers, sweet potato tops or swamp cabbage (kangkong), again mixed with molasses and left to ferment. Fermented plant and fruit juice that helps the ripening of the plants, and serves as enhancer/hormones.

⁷ Indigenous Microorganisms (IMO), the main ingredients of which are fermented rice and molasses, serves as soil conditioner and fertility enhancer.

MASIA members individually produce organic fertilizers and pesticides. One FGD participant is using non-organic chicken dung, which she buys from a poultry farm, as fertilizer for bananas.

TWO members get their supply of organic mix from their cooperative. Members produce their own fermented juices/concoctions and vermicast.

Gina Ibabao occasionally uses non-organic chicken dung for soil coating in her 2-hectare farm planted with cacao, bananas, and other fruit trees.

D. Marketing & Pricing

Certified organic bananas produced by Sobagromco and Papcobagrow are exported to Japan. Abaca and vegetables are sold at the Toril public market. High value vegetables like broccoli, lettuce, carrots, bok choy and herbs are sold in supermarkets at SM and Robinsons or to local tourists.

Calinan farmers sell cacao, coffee, and durian to Chinese traders and intermediaries in Calinan. Surplus vegetables are either sold to neighbors or brought by consolidators (who are also members of the organization) to the Friday organic market (FOM). Many farmers are not interested in selling their produce at the FOM due to high hauling/transportation costs. Gina Ibabao said she spends 1,500 pesos to transport at least 50 kilos of vegetables, bananas, and root crops to the FOM.

Respondents lamented that since their produce are not yet certified, they cannot fetch prices higher than conventionally produced equivalents. In the case of MASIA, traders who buy their cacao and coffee beans and durian are long-time *suki* from whom they also occasionally borrow money. Such relationship makes it even difficult for them to negotiate for high farm gate prices. Traders on the other hand do not care if the fruits and vegetables are organically grown or conventionally produced as long as these meet their own quality standards.

Gina Ibabao is worried because organic farmers using non-organic chicken dung might be barred from selling their produce at the organic market starting next year. She also said that FOM organizers have told her that her vegetables did not pass organic market standards because she uses natural farming to grow them; she was required to buy an organic spray worth 800.00.

Because of increasing number of farmers growing durian and lanzones, gate price have fallen to as low as 10.00 per kilo due to oversupply.

There is a high market demand for organic livestock and poultry, according to Dr. Gloria Marquez but the supply is low because only few farmers are engaged in organic swine raising and native chicken production and most of them are backyard raisers with less than ten sows/goats and less than two hundred native chickens. Dr. Marquez said that farmers prefer the conventional method of raising livestock and poultry because it is easier to buy commercial feeds than to prepare organic feeds. Also, the proliferation of genetically modified corn varieties continue to threaten the production of organic corn feeds for native chickens. The City Veterinarian's Office is now intensifying its information-education drive to encourage farmers to venture into organic livestock and poultry raising.

When asked if the City Vet is coordinating with the BLGUs in promoting organic livestock and poultry raising, Dr. Marquez answered in negative. She said that her office is working directly with farmers. She added that in the recent Regional Organic Agriculture Congress (ROAC), the role of barangay functionaries in strengthening the practice of organic agriculture was highlighted.

The construction of a 1.9 million Organic Center was completed in June this year but is not yet operational.

According to Mr. Glenn Gayanilo, the Dept. of Agriculture Region XI Office (DA-RXI) is planning to construct a 75 million Agri-Pinoy Trading Center in Toril, Davao City. The trading center will be open to organized farmers and farmer cooperatives in the region. DA will distribute high value crops and seeds to boost vegetable and fruit production of farmers so they will be able to sell large volumes of agriculture products at the TC. Hauling services will also be provided farmers will be the ones to pay for the gasoline and driver's honorarium.

E. Support services received from the government

Some members of TWO and MASIA were able to attend trainings and seminars conducted by the City Agriculturist Office (commonly referred to by the respondents as DA).

CAO has provided MASIA with vegetable seedlings, two collapsible dryer for cacao beans and one stainless cacao roaster. However, the dryers are good only for approximately eighty kilos of cacao beans; MASIA members are able to harvest approximately 400 kilos of cacao per hectare. They also need adequate power supply for the cacao roaster.

DAR conducted trainings on leadership and coop management for Sibulan farmers.

F. Role of non-government organizations (NGOs)

Farmcoop is providing a complete package of services to partner communities in Sibulan – organizing, technical support and capacity development, facilitation of employment opportunities, assistance in certification application, credit assistance, marketing support and infrastructure (water supply, roads and lighting). Farmcoop is also implementing a *Creating Nurturing Communities* (CNC) project that aims to promote backyard organic gardening to ensure food security and decrease malnutrition among women and children. More than sixty families are now growing their own backyard gardens in Sibulan.

Respondents in Calinan said that they get more services from NGOs like Masipag, Josefa Segovia Foundation, IDIS, SIMCARRD, Metsa Foundation, and PCEEM) Services mentioned were capacity building, organizational strengthening, and marketing support.

G. Needs and Challenges

1. Support services

The city government does not provide farm subsidies to organic farmers and CAO only provides trainings and seminars, supplies and materials for organic inputs production, and in the case of MASIA, cacao dryers, and roaster. Respondents said that they would like to receive more support from the government such as:

A. Equipment & infrastructures

- Farm-to-market roads especially in communities at the foot of Mt. Apo
- Financial assistance for tramline repair
- Compost haulers
- Water system development (ram pump or spring development)

- Composting equipment (shredders)
- B. Farm implements, planting materials
 - Fermentation/concoctions containers
 - Vermicast materials (nets for earthworms)
 - Spray containers
 - Molasses and *kinugay/muscovado*
 - Seedlings (especially traditional corn varieties and vegetables)
- C. Post-harvest facilities & technology development
 - Cacao processing facilities (dryers, tablea maker)
 - Chocolate making technology
- D. Marketing support

2. Proliferation of genetically-modified corn varieties

Organic farmers in Sirib are alarmed at the increasing number of farmers in adjacent areas who are planting genetically modified corn varieties like Roundup-ready (RR) and sige-sige because these might contaminate organic crops. In remote areas in Marilog, farmers are said to be growing sige-sige but they are not using synthetic herbicides.

3. Certification requirements

The Talomo Women's Organization has only one certified organic farm. Three other farms were given conditional approval by Philippine Guarantee System (PGS) inspectors because of inadequate drainage and possible cross-contamination from farms of members who are still in the process of transitioning to organic farming. Some organic farms are also situated near banana and pineapple plantations.

A number of farmers in Baguio district are not enthusiastic to go into organic farming because of certification requirements and low prices. They are practicing what they call "chemical-less" farming, i.e., they use chemical fertilizers to boost production if harvest were low/poor.

4. Lack of support from the BLGU

In Sibulan, the agriculture district office usually channels the dispersal of seedlings to the BLGU instead of distributing them directly to farmers. According to respondents, the seedlings are often given to farmers who are deemed to be political supporters/allies of local officials. In the case of MASIA, the BLGU-Sirib has never extended any assistance to their organization. It even took three years before barangay officials recognized their effort to promote and practice organic agriculture in the locality.

Vidala Ebon and her family availed of a 100,000.00 loan from DA for a native chicken production project but this brought in negative reactions from local officials of Barangay Gumalang who said that the grant should have been given to the barangay so that more families can benefit from it.

5. Difficulties in growing organic rice

Organic farmers in Sibulan have decided to stop growing rice because maya birds would always destroy their rice fields. In Calinan, farmers cannot grow organic rice because of banana and pineapple plantations in adjacent areas.

6. Budget for organic agriculture

Respondents said that they do not have information about the annual budget allotment for organic agriculture.

The TCOA’s 2013-2017 strategic plan does not have clear budget per key result area. CAO has allotted 500,000.00, out of its 1 million annual budget, for TCOA activities. CAO can also access additional funds from other sources like DA for marketing support, research and other support services but the researcher was not able to get information if CAO has submitted project proposals to DA and other relevant government line agencies.

Conclusion and Possible Ways Forward

Davao City has passed Ordinance No. 0384-10 also known as Organic Agriculture ordinance in Davao City in 2009 and its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) in 2010. The ordinance states in its declaration of policy that:

“It is the duty of the legal government to protect life and advance the rights of all citizens to food sufficiency, sovereignty and safety, sustainable livelihood and social equity in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Toward this end, the local government with mainstream organic agriculture as a main agriculture practice in Davao City”.

Based on the results of the FGDs and KIIs, it seems that after more than five years, Davao City still has a long way to go in achieving its objective of mainstreaming organic agriculture as a main agriculture practice. Until now the exact number of OA practitioners in Davao City stills needs to be ascertained. According to CAO-OIC Tabay, each AT has a target of organizing 20 organic practitioners per year. Granting that each district office has five ATs, there will be 100 OA practitioners per office or 500 practitioners in the third district alone within one year. Not to mention those who have already been organized by NGOs and church-based organizations.

For 2016, CAO will have a budget of 66.2 million; 60.1 million will be for personnel services, 5.9 million for MOOE and 124,000.00 for capital outlay. Recently, Mr. Tabay announced that CAO and the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) would be distributing organic fertilizers to farmers.

Pending the submission of the updated baseline data, the researcher would like to propose these recommendations for the mainstreaming of organic agriculture in Davao City.

Organic Agriculture Ordinance IRR	Finding/s	Recommendations
SECTION 5. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ZONES. For the effective implementation of this Ordinance, there are hereby set aside agriculture zones that will be protected from encroachment and contamination of using chemical-based farm inputs, mining, including contamination of genetically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sibulan is not yet declared as OA Zone. Other areas identified by CAO as OA zones are Wangan and Malamba. ▪ There are banana and pineapple plantations adjacent to organic farms in Calinan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lobby for declaration of organic agriculture zones and strict monitoring of the operations of banana and pineapple plantations.

<p>engineered crops and other similar activities.</p>		
<p>SECTION 6. ORGANIC CENTERS – The City Government of Davao through the City Agriculturist’s Office, shall establish, recognize, and/or support Organic Centers including those initiated by the private sector that will promote, market, and develop organic agriculture.</p> <p>SECTION 12. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS. – The City Government of Davao, through the City Agriculturist’s Office, shall insure the implementation of this ordinance guided by the principles of organic value chain. It shall ensure the marketing of organic products by providing centers for selling, transport and other necessary services. It shall also ensure that organic products have certified organic branding in accordance to the Philippine National Standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Few farmers are selling their produce at the Friday Organic Market because of high hauling/transportation cost ▪ The Organic Center is not yet operational. ▪ Farmers would like to receive support services from the government such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment & infrastructures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farm-to-market roads especially in communities at the foot of Mt. Apo ▪ Financial assistance for tramline repair ▪ Compost haulers ▪ Water system development (ram pump or spring development) ▪ Composting equipment (shredders) Farm implements, planting materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Containers for fermentation/concoctions ▪ Vermicast materials (nets for earthworms) ▪ Spray containers ▪ Molasses and <i>kinugay/muscovado</i> ▪ Seedlings (especially traditional corn varieties and vegetables) Post-harvest facilities & technology development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cacao processing facilities (dryers, tablea maker) ▪ Chocolate making technology Marketing support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist organic farmers in lobbying for mechanisms that would allow them to set farm gate and market prices. ▪ Lobby for adequate support services to farmers including hauling & transportation and marketing support. ▪ Provide start-up grants to new and transitioning farmers. ▪ Lobby for the localization of certification process (adoption of Davao City Certification System).
<p>SECTION 7. CONSERVATION OF INDIGENOUS FARM PRACTICES. Measures shall be established, by the farming communities, including indigenous peoples’ communities, to conserve and protect indigenous knowledge relating to organic agriculture, including those that relate to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indigenous peoples continue to practice some of their traditional farming practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Document experiences/success stories of farming communities, including IP communities.

<p>seed conservation and propagation and the various ways in which on-farm and ex-situ mechanisms are established and sustained.</p>		
<p>SECTION 8. ORGANIC GENE/SEED BANK. – The City Government of Davao, through the City Agriculturist’s Office, in coordination with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), international organizations and other appropriate agencies shall establish an Organic Seed/Gene Bank.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seed banks are lacking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish an Organic Seed/Gene Bank. CAO can linked with organizations with seed banks (Imulayan, Metsa, & Farmcoop-assisted communities in Sibulan).
<p>SECTION 9. SUPPORT SERVICES TO ORGANIC FARMERS. – The City Government of Davao shall ensure support to organic farmers who wish to engage in organic agriculture, such as training, production, marketing and branding, including financial management and accounting, among other necessary skills to develop an organic agriculture product that will secure a market niche, including the practice of fair trade.</p> <p>Support services shall also be primarily extended to small and marginalized farmers and women’s groups including the promotion, enhancement and fulfillment of their rights as defined in national laws.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CAO provides trainings and seminars on organic farming, supplies, and materials for preparation of farm inputs. ▪ More women are practicing organic agriculture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programmatic delivery of support services to organic farmers so that more farmers can avail of CAO’s services. ▪ Document and popularize stories of women practitioners and the contribution of organic agriculture to their empowerment.
<p>SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION. – The City Government of Davao shall appropriate substantial budget to ensure the implementation of this Ordinance and to support the organic agriculture activities of the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers do not have information on OA annual budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget advocacy to push the city government to increase its budget for organic farming.
<p>SECTION 15. INCENTIVES TO FARMERS, SCHOOLS, AND BARANGAYS. The City shall give incentives, awards and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BLGUs do not assist organic farmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Push BLGUs to promote organic agriculture and support local initiatives to improve organic production.

<p>financial support to farmers, schools and barangay local government units, which pursue, promote and practice organic farming. The City Agriculturist's Office shall formulate guidelines for developing incentive programs, award system, and/or financial support.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage BLGUs to participate in the Lunhaw Awards.
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Other recommendations:

- Review, assess and adjust, if necessary, the five-year strategic plan of the TCOA. KRAs should have clear budget allotment.
- Municipal Agriculturist's Offices should establish their own database of organic practitioners.
- Strengthen partnership between NGOs and community-based organic farmer organizations.
- Conduct relevant studies and researches (e.g., possible impacts of ASEAN integration on small organic farmers, effects of climate change on organic farmers in Davao City, role of women in mainstreaming organic agriculture, etc.)
- Assist organic farmers in accessing subsidies for organic fertilizer production, composting equipment and other services offered by DA.

ACRONYMS

AT	Agri-technician
BLGU	Barangay Local Government Unit
CAO	City Agriculturist's Office
CENRO	City Environment and Natural Resources Office
DA	Department of Agriculture
FAITH	Food Always in the House
FARMCOOP	Foundation for Agrarian Reform Coops in Mindanao
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FOM	Friday Organic Market
FPJ/FJJ	Fermented Plant/Fruit
IDIS	Interface Development Interventions, Inc.
IMO	Indigenous Microorganisms
JSF	Josefa Segovia Foundation
KII	Key Informant Interview
MAO	Municipal Agriculturist's Office/Officer
MASIA	Mag-uuma sa Sirib Association
OFW	Overseas Filipino Workers
OHN	Oriental Herb Nutrients
PAPCOBAGROW	Pamara Producers Papcobagrow Cooperative of Organic Banana Growers
ROAC	Regional Organic Agriculture Congress
SIMCARRD	SIAD (Sustainable Integrated Area Development) Initiatives in Mindanao- Convergence for Asset Reform and Regional Development
SOBOGROMCO	Sibulan Organic Banana Growers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
SUMIFRU	Sumitumo Fruit Corp.
TCOA	Technical Committee on Organic Agriculture
TWO	Talomo Women's Organization

Participants of the Focus Group Discussions

A. *Sibulan*

1. Romulom Lamanda
2. Marlyn Ambe
3. Nizel Ambe
4. Danny Adan
5. Carlos Salinda
6. Annie Ontic
7. Jerrenald Obrial

B. *Talomo Women's Organization*

8. Angel Manangan
9. Normelita Sapid
10. Rosario Asoy
11. Ofelia Idol
12. Annalou Garces
13. Elia Gomez
14. Evelyn Costinares

C. *MASIA*

15. Daisy Lariba
16. Erlinda Lariba
17. Virginia Cataas
18. Flaviana Bocasi