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MACROECONOMIC ACCOUNTS SERVICE Highlights of Participation in Local Training

Name of Participants: Delilah G. Bassig, Ronnie R. Hermoso and Eden R. Maitem

Position/Designation: Senior Statistical Specialist, Statistical Specialist I and Statistical Specialist I

Title: Assistance in the Conduct of the Second Level Training for the 2017 Survey on Costs and Returns (SCR) of Tomato Production in Misamis Oriental

Inclusive Dates: 9 to 13 October 2017

Place/s Visited: Misamis Oriental

Training Objective/s/ Purpose of Travel: To assist in the conduct of the Second Level Training for the 2017 Survey on Costs and Returns (SCR) of Tomato Production for Bukidnon and Misamis Oriental.

Funding Source: A.III.b.2-Development and Improvement of Statistical Frameworks and Standards

Activities Undertaken:

- 1. Conducted training focusing on the discussion on the following topics:
 - Reference period and survey methodology, quality control mechanisms and general guidelines in conducting field data collection
 - Filling-out the questionnaire Block A to O
 - Editing guidelines
- 2. Conducted dry-run exercises in Barangay Luna, Claveria, Misamis Oriental
- 3. Clearing of issues and concerns

Action Points:

Some issues/concerns raised and the resolutions/agreements made during the discussions were as follows:

Topic	Issues/Concerns	Resolutions/Agreements
Concepts and Definitions	Booklet of SCR concepts and definitions should be included in the manual of operations	
	Confusion on the concept of the transport costs of produce from farm to first point of sale. Is it still part of production costs or part of marketing costs?	transporting the goods in the first point of sale are

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Topic	Issues/Concerns	Resolutions/Agreements
Concepts and Definitions	What if the viajero/agents transported the produce to the market or to the first point of sale, is the transport costs incurred by the viajero be recorded as transport costs?	No, because the produce was already sold to agent before it was transported to the first point of sale.
Survey Methodology	In Misamis Oriental, we are not confident that we will be able to interview all 75 sample farmers. What if we did not met the target 75 samples?	The PSO was advised to try to look for the 75 samples and if in the actual data collection, the 75 samples cannot be met, inform the CO to find a solution for this problem.
General Guidelines in Conducting Field Data Collection	Why are we not using tablet in data collection? This can lessen the mandays in data processing given the same budget.	Noted.
	Can we have an additional column for remarks in the form of List of Sample Farmers?	Noted. For the meantime, put the remarks at the back.
Filling-out the Questionnaire Block C - Basic Characteristics of the Farm Item 1.2 to 1.5	What should be recorded in the farm characteristics from the point of visit or last cropping cycle?	From the last cropping cycle.
Item 5	Can we change the question of Item 5 into "How many crops did you plant in the focus parcel in a year?" because the word cropping pattern is confusing.	Noted.
Block G – Other Production Costs Item 14	The light used in the farm came from solar panel, should we impute the electricity cost?	No need to impute the cost of electricity just makes sure that there is a solar panel recorded in Block D – Farm Investment.

Topic	Issues/Concerns	Resolutions/Agreements
Editing Guidelines Block C – Basic Characteristics of the Farm Item 1.2 and Total Area	Item 1.2 - Total Physical Area will not equal to the sum of Item 1.3, Item 1.4 and Item 1.5, if there was a vacant or fallow area in the parcel?	Item 1.5 - Area of Other Structure, so that the sum

Listed below are the comments/suggestions during the dry run exercise:

- 1. Do not limit to five (5) sample farmers in the barangay. In case there is no qualified farmer in the barangay, can proceed to other barangay where there are tomato farmers who can be a sample.
- 2. Always wear the PSA I.D. during the interview and try to have a good impression.
- 3. Further explain the purpose of the survey and the confidentiality.
- 4. Always compose positive statements (Do not start with "Wala ka bang..." instead, ask the question as "Meron ka bang ginamit...")
- 5. All farm tools utilized in less than a year should be recorded in Block G.
- 6. Ask all questions.
- 7. Be knowledgeable on the sequence of our questionnaire prior to actual data collection.
- 8. Always verify sample farmer's response.
- 9. Always remember that we are pertaining to reference period and focus parcel only.
- 10. Make use of probing questions, if necessary.
- 11. Before the data collection, SR can translate the questions in their dialect but make sure that it is the same idea.
- 12. Always do the side notes.
- 13. Inform the farmer about the duration of the interview (on the average, it might take around 3 hours to complete the interview).
- 14. Do not do computations during the interview or in front of the farmer/respondent.
- 15. Keep in mind the basic consistencies among data items.
- 16. Before the end of the interview, check if there are missing entries.
- 17. Do not forget to check all the pages of the questionnaire before leaving the sample farmer/respondent.
- 18. After the interview, ask if the respondent knows another tomato farmer, then list the names and if possible the addresses.

NOTED BY: SUBMITTED BY: arlian 4. 1 Mlain Na. Carl g. DELILAH G. BASSIG **VIVIAN R. ILARINA** Senior Statistical Specialist MARIA CAROL G. DURAN Assistant National Statistician Chief Statistical Specialist Macroeconomic Accounts Agricultural Accounts Division Service RONNIE R. HERMOSO Macroeconomic Accounts Statistical Specialist I Service ÉDEN R. MAITEM Statistical Specialist I