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MEMORANDUM

TO : All Regional Executive Directors
The Director, Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB)

ATT'N : Regional Planning Officers
Regional Finance Officers
NGP Regional Coordinators

FROM : The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs
The Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment

SUBJECT : **ENGP ADVISORY: GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND REPROGRAMMING OF THE TARGETS AND BUDGET OF THE ENHANCED NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM FOR FY 2022**

DATE : FEB 23 2022

This is in reference to the issuance of Republic Act No. 11639 or the General Appropriations Act for FY 2022 which allocated budget for the implementation of the Enhanced National Greening Program (ENGP) amounting to Php 2,265,746,000.00. This amount is lower than the proposed budget under the Net Expenditure Program (NEP) amounting to Php 3,689,416,000.00. In this regard, regional and provincial targets and budget should be revisited and reprogramming of funds should be undertaken when necessary.

The following are the guidelines in reprogramming the allocated funds as per GAA FY 2022.

I. Mode of Implementation

The DENR shall still implement the ENGP through the Family Approach. Please refer to the Revised FMB Technical Bulletin 30 entitled: "Implementing the Family Approach as a Strategy in the National Greening Program" dated 22 March 2021.

II. Plantation Establishment

Based from the GAA, the total target area to be developed for FY 2022 is 45,706 ha. The **priority areas for development shall be within legislated Protected Areas (PA) and priority critical watersheds**. Budget permitting, set targets for new plantation development may increase but shall not decrease.

Commodities and species to be planted are preferably those that are indigenous and for protection purposes. Commodities for production purposes should be planted only within the multiple use zone of the PA subject to the approval of other authorities that hold jurisdiction over the identified PA. Depending on the result of the survey, mapping and planning (SMP), Bamboo shall comprise at least 40% of the total target of ENGP for FY 2022.

III. Seedling Production

A. Modernized and Mechanized Forest Nurseries (MMFN)

Given an allocation of Php 5,000,000.00, each MMFN must produce at least one (1) million planting materials without additional cost. The Region must ensure that the seedlings produced will be planted in areas targeted for development. The MMFN operators may source out seeds from the Forest Tree Seed Centers (FTSC) where collected seeds from Seed Production Areas (SPAs) are tested and stored.

The produced seedlings in the MMFN may also be used for replanting in NGP plantations damaged by fire and typhoons.

Please refer to Table 1 for the allowable expenses to be charged to this budget.

B. Clonal Nurseries

Given an allocation of Php 350,000.00, each DENR-established clonal nurseries shall produce at least 20,000 cloned planting materials. The region must ensure that the seedlings produced by clonal nurseries shall be planted in areas targeted for development, **equivalent to 32 ha** of land.

The cloned planting materials should be planted in designated areas and should not mix with planting materials that are not cloned. Regions should indicate in their Seedling Production and Plantation Establishment Reports the seedlings produced and areas where these cloned planting materials are planted. The list of species produced in clonal nurseries should also be submitted.

C. Community-based Seedling Production

The field office should take into consideration the available resources of planting materials. The cost and density of preferred commodity and species should be in accordance to the ENGP costing enumerated in FMB Technical Bulletin No. 10-A.

IV. Support to Seedling Production

A. Seed Production Areas/ Individual Plus Trees (SPAs/IPTs)

The ERDB shall continuously provide technical assistance to the field offices with established SPAs. An allocation of Php 500,000.00 is given to the operations and maintenance of the SPAs and identified IPTs and therefore, all Regional Offices/PENROs shall ensure that their SPAs are being maintained properly to produce quality seeds as sources for the MMFN whenever applicable.

The seeds collected from the SPAs should be turned over to the nearest Forest Tree Seed Center for testing and storage.

B. Forest Tree Seed Center (FTSC)

The FTSC serves as center for the processing and testing of seeds collected from various seed sources (SPAs and IPTs). For FY 2022, the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) shall establish and maintain six (6) FTSCs nationwide. The storage capacity of each FTSCs shall be determined by ERDB.

C. Improvement/Establishment of Nurseries

The Secretary has directed all CENROs and implementing PENROs to reactivate the Department's seedling production and distribution program. Seedlings to be produced from these nurseries shall be distributed for free to LGUs, private individuals, other government agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders and advocates that are initiating tree planting activities. A budget amounting to Php 200,000.00 is allocated per CENRO and implementing PENRO for the improvement of the previously established nurseries and also for the establishment of new one for those field offices who do not have it yet. A technical bulletin shall be issued for the specifications of the nurseries.

Bamboo planting material shall be among the priority species to be produced in the DENR nurseries since there is a growing advocacy and initiatives in planting bamboo in alienable and disposable lands. This is also in line to the thrust of the Secretary to promote bamboo as an alternative to wood and in support to the development of the Philippine Bamboo Industry.

The field offices should be aware of the needs of some ENR-based industries and biodiversity requirement of their area of jurisdiction so that production of certain bamboo species and forest tree species shall be in sync with the needs of the community and its environment.

D. Production and Distribution of Mycorrhiza

The production of mycorrhiza is under the operation of the ERDB. The distribution of the mycorrhiza shall be delivered prior to seedling production, preferably around January to February. The transportation cost shall be shouldered by ERDB.

V. Site Assessment, Survey, Mapping and Planning

The allocated funds for site assessment, survey, mapping and planning (SMP) shall be used for the assessment and identification of proposed areas for plantations in the following year, prioritizing areas within Protected Areas and within priority critical watershed mainly for protection purposes. Should there be areas identified for production purposes, these should be located within multiple use zones of the PA subject to the approval of other authorities that hold jurisdiction over the identified PA. Please also consider that at least 40% of the areas to be assessed shall be devoted to Bamboo plantation.

The fund can also be used for the SMP of identified sites to be developed this year, FY 2022, that has not yet been subjected to it.

VI. Enhancement of Graduated NGP Sites

NGP sites within production and protection forests damaged by force majeure and those with survival rates below 85% (based on Third Party Validation for sites with an area of 100 hectares and above or based on the results of the In-house Regional validation for sites with an area of 99 hectares and below) can be subjected to enhancement. This shall be implemented by the administration of the DENR field office.

Please be reminded that the identified NGP graduated sites to be subjected for enhancement should be **those that have been recognized by the Commission on Audit (COA) as impairment loss** (Section 36-37. Government Accounting Manual Volume 1 adopted though COA Circular No. 2015-007 dated 22 October 15).

Candidate NGP sites for enhancement shall be subjected to ground validation by a team composed of representatives from the COA, PENRO and CENRO. A comprehensive report of the assessment, including updated shapefile, geotagged photos, number of surviving trees and proposed plan for enhancement shall be submitted to the Regional Office for the Regional Executive Director's (RED) approval.

A report containing the approved NGP sites for the enhancement shall be submitted to the FMB.

All seedlings to be used for enhancement shall be sourced from the MMFN, Clonal nurseries, and replacement seedlings from tree cutting permits. Funds for enhancement of graduated sites shall be used for hiring of laborers for plantation establishment. Compensation of hired laborers shall be consistent with the prevailing daily wage rates per region based on Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). Please refer to FMB Technical Bulletin 10-A for the computed man days required.

The management, supervision and monitoring of the said sites for enhancement shall be included in the regular activities of the ENGP.

VII. Reforestation Plan

Provinces with watersheds without approved/draft or ongoing crafting of a 5-year reforestation plan should allocate an amount of Php 200,000.00 for the purpose.

VIII. Hiring of Extension Officers

Because of the budget cut, the number of Extension Officers (EOs) to be hired was reduced to eight hundred thirty-two (832). The ratio of the determination of EOs is 1:300ha, meaning one (1) EO is assigned for every 300 ha of the target area for new development and the previously established plantations in the 2nd year and 3rd year of establishment (Maintenance and protection targets for Year 2 and Year 3). Regional Offices may hire technical staff to augment the existing workforce in support to the implementation of ENGP activities including monitoring and documentation.

IX. Procurement of Laptops

Budget are allocated to all the provinces for the procurement of laptops. The cost of the unit to be procured may be lower than the unit cost set, however, the PENROs should ensure that the required specifications are met and same shall be used for the processing and storage of pertinent NGP data and documents.

The Regional Offices is hereby instructed to submit their final WFP to the Policy and Planning Service copy furnished the FMB on or before 16 February 2022.

You are also reminded to submit the following data as means of verification for our usual monitoring and evaluation activities:

1. List of sites to be developed for CY 2022 broken down per Protected Area and Priority Critical Watershed
2. Regions to submit the following **2021 accomplishment reports (AR)**:
 - Final AR for Plantation Development
 - Final AR for Seedling Production
 - MMFN forest tree seedlings distributed
 - Clonal Plantation Development
 - Seeds collected from SPAs/IPTs
 - Seeds stored in FTSCs
 - Mycorrhiza received and used for seedling production
3. Survival rates of graduated NGP and ENGP sites after the 3-year implementation and the status of turn-over and status of completion/closing to the book of accounts from Construction in Progress (CIP) to Land Improvement (LI).

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE.



ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES, *CESO I*



ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, *CESO I*

Table 1. Allowable expenses to be charged in MMFN funds

[illegible]

NGP Survival Rate
(after the 3-year implementation)

Site Code	Region	PENRO	CENRO	Municipality	Barangay	Sitio	Name of Engaged Partner	Year Established	Area Planted	No. of Seedlings planted	Year Graduated	No. of Surviving Seedlings (after 3rd yr)	Survival Rate* (after 3rd yr)	No. of Surviving Seedlings (latest)	Survival Rate* (latest)	Year validated (latest)	Status of Turnover	Status on the book of Accounts (CIP or LI)	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(q)	(r)	(s)	(t)

- a. Site Code - designated site code for the site based on submitted shapefiles
- b. Region - Regional jurisdiction of the plantation
- c. PENRO - Provincial ENR Office jurisdiction of the plantation
- d. CENRO - Community ENR Office jurisdiction of the plantation
- e. Municipality
- f. Barangay Location of the plantation
- g. Sitio
- h. Name of Engaged Partner - Name of the engaged PO. Community groups/family
- i. Year Established - Calendar year when the plantation was established
- j. Area planted - area of land planted in hectare (ha)
- k. No. of seedlings planted - No. of seedlings planted as per equivalent area to be established
- l. Year Graduated - calendar year after the 3rd year of implementation
- m. No. of Surviving Seedlings - number of planted seedlings that survived **after the third year of implementation**
- n.* Survival Rate - after the 3rd year of implementation; computed by using this formula: $SR = (\text{No. of surviving seedlings/no. of planted seedlings}) * 100$
- o. No. of surviving seedlings (latest) - count of surviving seedlings planted based on latest validation
- p. Survival Rate (latest) - percent survival of the seedlings planted based on latest validation
- q. Year Validated - Calendar year when the latest validation was done
- r. Status of turnover - Cite if the plantation has already been turned over or still ongoing
- s. Status on the book of accounts - Cite whether it is registered as Contruction in Progress (CIP) or already as Land Improvement (LI)
- t. Remarks