



Republic of the Philippines
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SPECIAL ORDER

No. 949
Series of 2024

SUBJECT : CREATION OF AN EVALUATION REFERENCE GROUP (ERG) FOR THE CONDUCT OF EVALUATION STUDY OF HIGH-VALUE CROPS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (2016-2023)

The Department of Agriculture is spearheading the conduct of an evaluation study of the High-Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) for the period 2016-2023.

To facilitate the conduct of the study and in accordance with the Guidelines on Evaluation in the Government issued by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), an Evaluation Reference Group (ERG) is hereby created, as follows:

- Chair : Undersecretary, Policy, Planning and Regulations
Co-Chair : Undersecretary, High-Value Crops Development Program
- Members : Representatives from the following:
- Planning and Monitoring Service (PMS)
 - High-Value Crops Development Program - National Program Management Office (HVCDP - NPMO)
 - Field Operations Service (FOS)
 - Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)
 - Agricultural Training Institute (ATI)
 - Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)
 - Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries - Policy Development and Coordination Division (PCAF - PDCP)

The ERG has the following roles and responsibilities:

- 1) Review and provide comments on the Terms of Reference, specifically the scope, objectives, and key evaluation questions;
- 2) Participate in the evaluation by providing data and acting as key informants, as necessary;
- 3) Review and provide comments on the study design/ inception report and draft evaluation reports submitted by the Consultancy Firm/ Evaluation Team particularly in terms of the quality of the application of methodology, correctness of findings, usefulness of the recommendations, and other aspects; and
- 4) As appropriate, and if identified in the recommendations section, take responsibility for preparing a management response to key issues and recommendations raised in


evaluations, and identify key follow-up actions, responsible units for implementation, and target completion dates for these actions.

The Central Office - Neutral Evaluation Unit (CO-NEU) under the Monitoring and Evaluation Division (MED) established by Special Order 171, series of 2023 shall act as the secretariat of the ERG; oversee the implementation of the evaluation study; and ensure that this will be conducted according to the Guidelines on evaluation in the Government.

The ERG in the performance of their roles and responsibilities is authorized to conduct meetings and other related activities. Expenses for the conduct of these activities shall be chargeable against the Planning and Monitoring Service funds while traveling expenses and per diems are chargeable against the ERG members' respective offices, subject to the existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This order shall take effect immediately and shall be considered revoked upon completion of the activity. All orders, memoranda and issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 1st day of JULY 2024.


FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR.
Secretary

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