

Republic of the Philippines  
**PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG**  
**(National Irrigation Administration)**  
*Lungsod ng Quezon*

MC No. 01 s, 1998

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**

**TO :** The Deputy Administrator, Assistant Administrators, Heads of Departments/Staffs, Regional Irrigation Managers, Operations/Project Managers, Irrigation Superintendents, Provincial Irrigation Engineers and All Others Concerned  
This Agency

**SUBJECT :** **STRENGTHENING THE PARTICIPATORY PLANNING  
APPROACH IN DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Quoted hereunder is the 17 November 1997 memo of the Acting Secretary, for your reference and appropriate action.

"Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Office of the Secretary  
*Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City*

17 November 1997

**MEMORANDUM FROM THE OIC/ACTING SECRETARY**

**TO :** Regional Directors  
Bureau Directors  
Heads of Attached Agencies and Corporations  
PMO Heads of FAPs

**SUBJECT :** Implementation/Strengthening of the Participatory Planning Approach in Development Planning

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As you are aware, in the Department of Agriculture's (DA) annual planning and budgeting exercises, we have always been asked by the Congress and the Senate, as well as other concerned sectors, for the list of our programs/projects up to the municipal or even barangay level. Most of the time, we have difficulty in providing such data due to their unavailability. In your current annual planning and budgeting review, may I remind you to incorporate the participatory approaches in development planning in order to address this concern.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) and its partner LGUs have fundamental roles to play in the development planning of the agriculture sector. To strengthen the basic linkage between the DA and the LGUs, the Department presently has a Technical Assistance (TA) Project on Institutional Capacity Building for Policy Formulation, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation for the Agriculture Sector.

One of the basic goals of the pilot phase of the TA is to implement and institutionalize the participatory planning process, not only within the DA, but also within the LGUs. The provinces of ~~Occidental Mindoro~~, ~~Iloilo~~, and Zamboanga del Sur have been selected by the project's Steering Committee as the Pilot Provinces. These areas should expect thorough consultations to enable the institutionalization of a participatory planning process that is based on the municipal agricultural development plan. On the other hand, those regions/provinces not chosen for the project's pilot implementation need also prepare their Work and Financial Plans (WFPs) in consultation with the various stakeholders of the sector - not only with the appropriate LGUs, but also with POs and NGOs and other concerned sectors in their respective areas of concern.


It is due to these recent efforts that I advise you to start and/or strengthen the participatory development planning approach in your respective units. Please ensure that such a process is done in the finalization of your FY 1998 Work and Financial Plans and in the forthcoming preparation of your unit's FY 1999 Plan and Budget Proposals (PBPs).

**FOR STRICT COMPLIANCE.**

(SGD.) DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN  
Acting Secretary"

Be guided accordingly.

Jan. 5, 1998

  
ORLANDO V. SORIANO  
Administrator