

Balitang



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Serbisyong

DAR to DOOR

Bringing Government Services
Right at the ARB's Doorsteps



DAR conducts 1st "Serbisyong DAR-to-DOOR" CLOA distribution in Laguna

By: Resurreccion E. Arcaina

PAETE, Laguna – Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) John R. Castriciones led the first "Serbisyong DAR-to-DOOR" distribution of certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs) to forty-three (43) agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) comprising a total of 38.7 hectares of land where he personally handed over to six (6) ARBs their titles living along the way to the venue while the rest were distributed at the Multi-Purpose building located in Brgy. Wawa, Siniloan, Laguna, July 1, 2020.

Castriciones personally delivered to the 6 ARBs their titles right at their doorstep to ensure that the farmers would receive their CLOAs. He handed the CLOA in a gift wrap and told the ARB in the vernacular, "May dala po kaming regalo sa inyo. Kami na po ang nagdala mismo dahil ito ang bilin ng Pangulo na ilapit namin sa inyo ang gobyerno."

Seeing what was inside, teary-eyed farmers thanked the President and DAR for this unprecedented move of bringing the government closer to the people.

"This is the first time that DAR has done this, it is fulfilling and it's worth it," Castriciones said.



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"Salamat po mahal naming Pangulo. Nakakahiya naman po na kayo pa ang nagpadala sa amin ng titulo," said Michael Dimafeliz, who became a beneficiary through hereditary succession because his father is old and had a stroke.

The second part of the distribution was held in the covered court where Castriciones distributed titles to ARBs located in Bgy. Wawa and Brgy. Magsaysay, Siniloan, Laguna.

The ARBs received their CLOAs under the new normal situation where the ARBs did a gesture of bowing down with their right hand on their heart, saying thank you afterwards and doing the fists bump.

ARB Ernesto Bringas pleaded "Sana gumawa ng paraan ang pamahalaan na matigil ang pamimili ng lupa ng mga dayuhan sa aming lugar. Nangangamba po ako na baka dumating ang araw na ang lupa ng Pilipinas ay pag-aari na ng mga banyaga. Hiniling ko din po na huwag ng pigilan ang mga pulis at military ang mga magsasaka na lumabas sa kanilang mga sakahan sapagkat ngayon ay panahon na ng taniman."

Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer Elizabeth Z. Villapando said the titles are among the 1,353 CLOAs turned-over by the Land Bank of the Philippines-Agrarian Reform Operations Center in UPLB, Los Banos, Laguna.

The ARB-recipients gathered at the ceremony, observing the required Covid-19 pandemic health and safety protocols of social distancing, and wearing masks.

Other officials who graced the event were DAR Undersecretaries for Support Services Office (SSO) Atty. Emily O. Padilla, Policy, Planning and Research Office Virginia N. Orogo, Assistant Secretary for Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Office (FASPO) Ubaldo R. Sadiarin, Jr., CALABARZON Regional Director Rene E. Colocar, Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission Commissioner Greco Belgica, PAMRS Director Cleon Lester G. Chavez. 🌱





DAR DELIVERS LAND TITLES RIGHT AT THE DOORSTEPS OF BATAAN FARMERS

By: Resurreccion E. Arcaina

MORONG, Bataan, July 3, 2020 – The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) led by Secretary John R. Castriciones personally handed over at the residences of some twenty (20) agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) their certificates of landownership award (CLOAs) comprising a total of 31.27 hectares located in barangay Binaritan, Morong, Bataan, through the newly distribution scheme of DAR tagged as “Serbisyong DAR-to-Door” CLOA distribution.

“Utos po sa amin ng ating Pangulo na ilapit sa mga magsasaka ang mga serbisyo ng pamahalaan. Gusto po niyang maging masaya kayo,” thus said Castriciones as he gives the titles to farmer-beneficiaries Neptali Martin and

Diosdado Gonzales.

“My dream to finally own the land I till is now a reality. We will make this land productive and will not allow any members of the family to sell it” Neptali Martin said, an ARB from brgy. Binaritan, Morong, Bataan whose family has been tilling a land owned by other landowner since birth.

During the continuation of the distribution held in Morong covered court, Castriciones reminded the ARBs, “Huwag po natin iiwanan ang pagsasaka, sapagkat ang pagsasaka ay isa sa marangal na hanapbuhay ng isang mamamayan. Kung walang magsasaka, walang pagkain sa hapag-kainan” he

said.

Padilla reminded the ARBs to register into the Registry System for Basic Sector in Agriculture (RSBSA), a project in partnership with the Department of Agriculture aimed at registering legitimate farmers nationwide for them to get and have easy access to other benefits provided by the government.

“Sana po, dahil dito sa Bataan ginawa ang pamimigay ng CLOA at farm inputs, ito ang magiging simula ng pagbangon at paglaya ng ating mga magsasaka mula sa giyera ng Covid na ito,” she added.

Castriciones also distributed

agricultural inputs amounting to P2,166.00 each to a total of 107 in Morong, namely: Nagkaisang Magsasaka ng Nagbalayong Cooperative (NAMANA Coop), Morong Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MMPC) and Morong Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MFMPC).

Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer Eric T. San Luis said the farm inputs distributed comprises of seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides, and farm tools to help them produce fast-growing crops, cash crops and vegetables, for them to increase food supply in the area and generate additional incomes for the ARBs. 🌱



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DAR DELIVERS LAND TITLES IN THE MIDDLE

OF FARMER'S LANDHOLDINGS



By: Richard B. Gallardo
& Resurreccion E. Arcaina

THE Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) led by Secretary John R. Castriciones personally distributed Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) to thirteen (13) agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) covering a total of 22.16 hectares right in the middle of their farms in barangay Pagolingan, Palauig, Zambales.

The DAR took an extra mile with its new distribution scheme, called "Serbisyong DAR-to-Door" CLOA distribution, by going directly to farmers' houses or farms to deliver their land titles to ensure that the identified agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) would be the one to personally receive the titles.

ARB-recipient Anthony Delos Reyes, who at that moment, was still riding in his carabao named "Beauty", got the surprise of his life when Castriciones and his team suddenly arrived in the middle of his farm and handed over his CLOA-title comprising a total of 7,500 square meters agricultural land. Delos Reyes, who had been a tenant and farming for the thirty years of his life, almost hugged the Secretary when he received his land title. "From this day onwards, this land is mine, I will safeguard, cherish and make this land productive," he said in tears.

In a formal ceremony held at the barangay covered court, after the house-to-house CLOA distribution, Castriciones encouraged the ARBs, who were provided with land titles under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), not to sell or transfer the lands given to them by the government, as this land would help uplift their lives and their family in the future.

"Nabiyayaan kayo ng lupa sa panahon ito, bilang tanda ng pagmamahal ng ating pamahalaan sa mga magsasaka," Castriciones said.

Castriciones also led the distribution of agricultural productivity assistance to some eighty-three (83) ARBs in the form of farm inputs, composed of seeds, fertilizers, farm tools and other implements.

Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer II Eric San Luis said the ARBs are members of the 3 ARB organizations (ARBOs) in Zambales namely: Dapla Salaza Resettlement Community Multipurpose Cooperative in Palauig, Amungan Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Iba and Zambaleno Irrigations Association also in Iba.

San Luis said the farm inputs provided to the 83 ARBs, worth P2,000.00 each, comprises of 15 kilos urea fertilizer, 15 kilos complete fertilizer, one sachet eggplant seeds, one sachet siling pang-sigang seeds, one sachet tomato seeds, four pieces seedling trays, two sachets of carbaryl pesticide and two sachets of methomyl pesticide, all aimed at increasing their agricultural produce and income to support their respective families and the food security of the area.

Other DAR officials who graced the event were Undersecretaries for Support Services Office Atty. Emily O. Padilla, Policy, Planning and Research Office Virginia N. Orogo, Assistant Secretary for Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Office (FASPO) Ubaldo R. Sadiarin, Jr., Region 3 Director Celestina M. Tam, Zambales Provincial Governor Hermogenes E. Ebdane, Pangolingan Brgy. Captain Howard Hersone M. Caasi, Public Assistance and Media Relations Service (PAMRS) Director Chavez and other local officials of Zambales. 🌱



FARMERS RECEIVE LAND TITLES, SUPPORT SERVICES FROM DAR

By: Pinky F. Roque

"THIS is a dream come true! The farm is finally mine! I am thankful to President Duterte for making this happen," said Paciano Vicente, who was very happy after receiving his certificate of land ownership award (CLOA) from Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Secretary John Castriciones.

Castriciones personally handed over the CLOA to Vicente and Bernardino Torillo, another farmer-beneficiary, when he visited them in their farm lots in barangay Bakero in Cabanatuan City.

"I personally gave these CLOAs to them to give them hope, to let them feel that despite this pandemic, the government is here ready to give them help and support," Castriciones said.

Vicente and Torillo are two of the twenty (20) exultant agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) who received their CLOAs from the Secretary, the rest were awarded with CLOAs in a ceremony held on July 7, at this city's municipal hall.

The distributed lands covered sixteen (16) hectares of agricultural land located in Cabanatuan City, Bongabon and Gen. Natividad.

Vicente is a rice farmer whose life-long dream is to own the land he and his wife have been tilling for decades. "With this land and the other projects turned over today, I am confident that my family's future is secured. I am looking forward to earning more this coming years," he said.

Seventy (70) year-old Torillo, said he is very happy because he now has

something to leave his children with.

"The CLOAs are just the first step towards more support from the government. No matter what circumstances we face, pandemic or no pandemic, we will follow the President's national goal of improving the economic lives of farmers by pouring various support services to farm communities," Castriciones said.

During the CLOA distribution, Castriciones, together with Undersecretary for support services office Emily O. Padilla, also turned-over support services for the ARBs worth P 4.8 million.

Turned over were the following: two Kubota four-wheel drive, 35-horsepower Diesel farm tractors complete with rotary tiller and trailer to two (2) agrarian reform beneficiaries organization (ARBOs); productivity assistance consisting of vegetable seeds, seedling trays and fertilizers given to twenty-seven (27) ARBs; and poultry egg-laying business given to five (5) ARB-women.

"These provisions are highly significant in achieving food security in the country. These [support services] would greatly help the farmers in fulfilling their role as frontliners by continually producing and delivering food crops in critical areas affected by the pandemic," Padilla said.

The provision of support services is being implemented under the project called "The PaSSOver: ARBOLD Move to Heal as One Deliverance of our ARBs from the Covid-19 Pandemic." 🌱

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153 RIZAL FARMERS RECEIVE LAND TITLES FROM DAR AFTER 27 YEARS

By: Pinky F. Roque

AFTER 27 years of waiting, 153 landless farmers in the province of Rizal finally had their wish granted — the land titles that grants them ownership to the piece of land that they have been tilling for so long.

Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Secretary John Castriciones, who led the distribution of Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs), said the land distributed to the agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) has a total land area of 74 hectares.

“The distribution of these land titles is part of the continuing efforts of the agency to free the farmers from the bondage of tenancy, landlessness and poverty,” Castriciones said.

“Ito ang araw na dapat tayo ay

maging masaya sapagkat matatanggap na ninyo ang inyong mga CLOA na matagal ninyong hinintay. Iyan ang magpapatunay na kayo ay tunay na mga Pilipino at tunay na nagmamay-ari na ng lupa,” Castriciones said to the farmers.

Castriciones said that the department encountered difficulties with the owners of the landholdings from 1993 up to 2020.

“We have encountered problems but with diligence and perseverance, we have fulfilled our mandate and were able to finally award the CLOAs to deserving agrarian reform beneficiaries,” Castriciones said.

“The good news is, we have streamlined the processes in acquiring

agricultural lands, so that farmers will not wait 27 years to be awarded with CLOAs,” Castriciones added.

Eighty-seven (87) year old farmer Virginia Castro and his spouse 92-year-old Arturo, from Barangay Macabud, was overwhelmed with joy after receiving their long-awaited CLOA from the Secretary right in their own home.

“Wala pong mapagsidlan ang aming saya sa titulong ito! Salamat sa Diyos! Sa tagal ng paghinintay napasaamin din ang lupa. Salamat po sa iyo Secretary Castriciones sa pagsadya ninyo dito sa amin,” said Virginia Castro.

Another farmer from Macabud, 73-year-old Juan Guilalas and his wife

Lourdes, were surprised when the Secretary personally handed them their land title right at their doorstep.

Guilalas, a rice and fruit farmer, has been tilling the land for more than 50 years.

“Ngayong sa amin na ang lupa, magagawa ko na ang lahat ng aking plano upang mapagayaman ito. Ako na ang magdedesisyon sa lahat ng nais kong itanim,” Guilalas said.

Farmers Castro and Guilalas were among the 153 new landowners awarded with CLOA by the Secretary. The rest of the CLOA recipients received their land titles in a distribution ceremony held at the Barangay Hall compound of Barangay Macabud, Rodriguez, Rizal. 🌾



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CASTRICIONES DISTRIBUTES AGRI LANDS IN CORON THROUGH SERBISYONG DAR-TO-DOOR

By: Medel E. Mercado

AGRARIAN Reform Secretary Brother John Castriciones distributed a total of 9.7 hectares of agricultural lands to eight (8) agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in Barangay Guadalupe, Coron Palawan through a personalized Serbisyong DAR-to-Door program of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR).

Serbisyong DAR-to-Door is a program of the department where Brother John personally delivers the certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs) right at the farm or at the doorsteps of the recipients.

Brother John said they do this service to bring the government to farmers' household so that they would feel that this administration is on their side. "We visit various far-flung communities to give hope to the farmers. To show them that if we can personally deliver the land titles they've been dreaming of for many years, we can do more to make their lands become more productive," Brother John said.

The Secretary is accompanied by other DAR top officials from central, regional, and provincial offices to show their full support to this program. Support Services Office Undersecretary Emily Padilla advised the new landowners that they

should join farmers' organizations or cooperatives to quickly receive various support services from the government.

"The government's support are in the form of access to credit facilities, farm inputs and machineries, training and seminar, among others, and you would quickly benefit from them when you join organizations," Padilla said.

Palawan Congressman Franz Alvarez said that his office is open for ARB's concerns whenever they need the local government's help. "All I ask of you is to maximize the use of these lands, and do not be tempted to sell them," he added.

The farmer-recipients of the program include Liverinda Zabalo, Luis Zabalo, Leonardo Zabalo, Bienvenido Zabalo, Damian Apolinario, Edwin Alarcon, Romualdo Bautista and Engracita Wab. The emotional Engracita Wab thanked the DAR for the blessings that she received because she had been tilling the land for many years uncertain if the property would become hers.

"From now on I will never be scared that this land would be taken away from me. Thank you very much for what you have done to us," Wab said. 🌱



DAR-TO-DOOR POLICY IN CLOA DISTRIBUTION NOW THE ORDER OF THE DAY

By: Richard B. Gallardo

LOCAL officials and staff of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) braved the inclement weather condition and the danger posed by Covid 19 when they went house-to-house to 12 individual agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) to deliver at their doorsteps their Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) in Carmen, Bohol recently.

Carmen municipal agrarian reform program officer-in-charge Wilma S. Legaspo and her staff visited the homes of the 12 ARBs one after the other to hand to them their land titles, following the footsteps of DAR Secretary Brother John R. Castricones.

Bro. John made the DAR-to-door distribution of CLOA the standard policy to show to the farmer-beneficiaries that the agency cares for them in the same way that the latter are expected to take care of the farmlots awarded to them.

“Do not sell your farmlots,” a statement often

Bro. John imparted to the beneficiaries.

Before, the beneficiaries were brought to the covered court where a program is usually held for CLOA distribution.

Legaspo identified the beneficiaries as Edgar Dumapias, Jesus Dumapias, Zacarias Dumapias Sr and son Zacarias Jr. and Rogelio Dumapias, all recipients of farmlots previously owned by Soledad Cainglet.

The other beneficiaries were Ramon Esto, Luis Esto, Arturo Esto, Maximo Esto, Joel Sepada, Eleuterio Sepada, and Anastacio Olidan also received their CLOAs, covering the property of former owner Miguel Cinchez. Legaspo encourage them to join farmers’ organizations to enable them to enjoy government assistance in the form of the use of farm machineries and implements and farm inputs and of participation in capacity building seminars and livelihood training workshops. 🌱

DAR-CAMARINES NORTE DELIVERS 26 LAND TITLES TO FARMERS’ HOMES

By: Pinky F. Roque



TWENTY-SIX landless farmers from municipalities of Camarines Norte received their Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) from the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) via the agency’s Serbisyong DAR-to-Door amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

In two separate occasions, 26 CLOAs covering 24 hectares were personally delivered by the DAR right in the doorsteps of each agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in the municipalities of San Lorenzo and San Vicente.

Municipal Agrarian Reform Program Officer Nilla P. Lagatuz, who led the Serbisyong DAR-to-Door in both areas, reiterated to each ARB that their land titles should be safeguarded, and the land be made productive.

“I urged each of them to maximize the use of these lands, and not be tempted to sell especially when they are in dire need of cash,” she added.

She further assured the recipients that the DAR shall continuously do its best to provide support services, such as farm implements, livelihood assistance, and training to make farming easier and help improve their lives.

Serbisyong DAR-to-Door is a program of the department where DAR officers or personnel deliver the CLOAs right at the farm or at the doorsteps of the recipients.

Lagatuz noted that the ARBs were automatically enrolled in Registry System for Basic Sector in Agriculture (RSBSA) and listed as new members of the San Isidro Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative (SIARBECO) to strengthen the integration of land improvement program and the provision of basic support services to the farmer beneficiaries. 🌱



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DAR CHIEF DELIVERS LAND TITLES TO FARMERS' HOMES



By: Pinky F. Roque

DEPARTMENT of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Secretary Bro. John R. Castriciones recently led the distribution of certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs) through its “Serbisong DAR-to-DOOR” in the towns of Malaybalay in Bukidnon, Clarin, Tudela and Ozamis in Misamis Occidental.

Brother John personally handed over 14 CLOAs to agrarian reform beneficiaries’ (ARBs) doorstep to ensure the farmers would receive their CLOAs.

“Narito kami ngayon para iparating sa inyo na ang ating pamahalaan ay talagang nagmamahal sa mga magsasaka. At dito namin dinala mismo sa inyo ang aming sorpresa,” Brother John said to farmers.

The first part of the DAR-to-Door was held on March 6, at Barangay Patpat in Malaybalay, Bukidnon where nine (9) CLOAs were personally handed over by Brother John. The second part of the distribution was done the next day in the towns of Clarin, Tudela and Ozamis in

Misamis Occidental where five (5) CLOAs were given by Brother John.

“Eto na! May titulo na ako!,” said Susana Oyao of Tudela, Misamis Occidental, who was very happy after receiving her CLOA from Brother John.

“Sobrang saya po namin! Kay tagal na panahon ang aming hinintay at di inaasanan na makamit ang titulo. Maraming Salamat. Napakaswerte naming pamilya at pinuntahan kami ni Brother John,” said famers Julie Meliston and Lito Meliston of Barangay Patpat, Malaybalay in Bukidnon.

The Melistons and Susana Oyao are two of the 14 exultant ARBs who received their CLOAs from the Secretary. The rest, 2,455 ARBs, were awarded with CLOAs in a ceremony held on March 5, at the Joint meeting of the National Task Force - Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict Northern Mindanao (NTF-RTF-ELCAC X) where the President, together with Brother John, distributed CLOAs. 🌱

DAR DISTRIBUTES LAND TITLES TO CAGAYAN PROVINCE FARMERS, SOME ONLY UNDER A MANGO TREE

By: Medel E. Mercado

IN a very simple ceremony, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) in the province of Cagayan distributed land titles, with a total of 62.85 hectares of agricultural lands, to 42 agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) to help them improve their economic lives.

The certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs) were distributed to the ARBs covering three (3) barangays in the town of Solana.

The covered lands from barangays Padul and Pattaya, with a total of 46.95 hectares, were distributed under a mango tree, while those in Barangay Furagui, with 15.90 hectares were distributed in the municipal office.

Municipal Agrarian Reform Program Officer (MARPO) Melvida Camayang said they distributed the land titles in a very simple ceremony because

what really matters to them is how the ARBs would use them to change their lives for the better.

“We handed them the land titles under the tree because it is our way of emulating the good leadership of DAR Secretary Brother John Castriciones in administering the agency’s DAR-to-Door program,” Camayang said.

Under the DAR-to-Door program, Brother John personally deliver the CLOAs of the ARBs right in front of their doorsteps or farms to bring the government’s services in their communities.

Camayang said they became more inspired by the program because they can feel the farmers’ brighter hope for the future after seeing the government’s effort to bring their land titles in their communities. 🌱



Serbisong

DARto DOOR

CARP KEY TO RAISING FARMER'S LIVING CONDITION, WINNING REBELS

By: Richard B. Gallardo

AGRARIAN Reform Secretary Brother John Castricones said the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) has raised the standards of living of farmer-beneficiaries and winning rebels back to the mainstream of society and giving them a chance to have a brand-new start.

Brother John said he is pleased with the way the program contributes to the economic well-being of its beneficiaries and in encouraging rebels to get back to the fold of the law.

"This is a clear manifestation that the CARP is truly a program for the upliftment of the economic status of our farmer-beneficiaries and for the promotion of the peace and order

situation in the countryside," Bro. John said during the DAR-to-door delivery and distribution of land titles - Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) - in the towns of Catigbian and Trinidad, Bohol recently.

Bro. John cited the hardworking farmer-couple, Mathias and Elenita Nabog, to whom he delivered a CLOA in Barangay Triple Union, Catigbian, as a model for getting three of their four grown-up children finish their schooling through farming - a civil engineer, a sailor, and an information technologist. The youngest is in senior high school.

In Barangay San Vicente, Trinidad, Bohol, seven rebel-returnees, led by Virgilio Quisto, and 57 farmer-beneficiaries received their respective individual CLOAs in a drama-filled

ceremony where Quisto expressed his deep appreciation to the government for making their dreams come true.

"I believe I did the right decision of returning to the fold of law. We are happy we have the titles of our farmlots now and I could only thank President Rodrigo Duterte for making it possible," Quisto, 59, said.

He added: "I joined the rebel movement on the promise that I would be given a farmlot. Twenty-one years had gone and there is still no farmlot given to us."

Shortly after, the CLOA-holding farmers and rebel returnees, their relatives, and other members of the community pledged their full support to the government and promised never to let any rebels set foot again in their village. 🌱



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DAR to DOOR

DAR-DAVAO DE ORO PERSONALLY DISTRIBUTES GOVERNMENT-OWNED LANDS TO 252 FARMERS

By: Medel E. Mercado

DEPARTMENT of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Secretary Brother John Castricones commended the DAR provincial office of Davao de Oro for personally handing out land titles to 252 farmer-occupants of Davao National Agricultural School-Technical Education and Skills Authority (DNAS-TESDA) in Barangay Prosperidad, Montevista.

The 350 certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs), with a total of 236.83 hectares of agricultural lands were personally delivered to the homes of the farmer-occupants who were identified as qualified as agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) of the 250-hectare government-owned land in the town of Montevista.

The delivery of land titles was done through the “Serbisyong DAR to DOOR,”

one of the flagship programs of Brother John where he personally delivers land titles to the ARBs right in front of their homes or farms, to intensify the turnover of land titles to the farmers especially during the period of the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

“I have learned that these ARBs have been tilling these lands, planted with bananas, cacao and falcata trees for 30 years, and we have thought of rewarding their noble deeds by giving them these properties by personally delivering the CLOAs right at their doorsteps,” Brother John said.

OIC-Assistant Regional Director Melchor Jamora said the lands were distributed through Executive Order No. 75 (EO 75), Series of 2019, which was issued

by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in February 2019.

“This is the first government-owned land in Davao Region under EO 75 and we were able to facilitate the speedy acquisition and distribution of the land under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP),” Jamora said.

“We would like to express our deepest gratitude to President Duterte for issuing EO 75 and also to the DAR for being an instrument in the realization of our dream, which we thought would never happen,” Noel Austria, representative of the recipients said.

Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer II Jupiter Arandela Jr. said the DNAS-TESDA would also turn-over to the DAR a 192-hectare portion of their

property in Barangay Camansi to be distributed to another set of identified ARBs.

Barangay Prosperidad in Montevista is one of the priority barangays identified by the Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (RTF-ELCAC) and the DAR prides itself in achieving a major contribution to the efforts of bringing development to the community by empowering the residents through eventually realizing ownership of the lands they have tilled for so many years.

The activity was participated by First District Representative Manuel Zamora, Montevista Mayor Eutropio Jayectin, Prosperidad Barangay Captain Nelson Paderanggaa and some selected staff from the DAR regional and provincial offices. 🌱



Serbisyong

DAR to DOOR

CASTRICIONES PERSONALLY DELIVERS LAND TITLES TO FARMERS' HOUSEHOLDS, TURNS OVER PROJECTS TO COOP IN ZAMBO DEL SUR

By: Medel E. Mercado

DEPARTMENT of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Secretary Brother John Castriciones personally delivered certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs) to the doorsteps of six (6) agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in Barangay Gonosan, Molave town in Zamboanga del Sur.

Brother John said the delivery of CLOAs right at the doorsteps of the ARBs is the new strategy being conducted by the department dubbed as “Serbisyong DAR to Door,” whose recipients are deserving farmer-beneficiaries with the main responsibility of enriching the lands they received.

The CLOA-recipients were Fausto Calderon, Lucena Calderon, Miguela Olita, Hermie Mirafuentes, Elvis Mirafuentes and Rosalia Camahalan.

“We visit their homes to deliver their titles because we want them to feel that the government is just right at their doorsteps. We are providing them lands to till to give them hope that even in these trying times, this administration gives priority to our

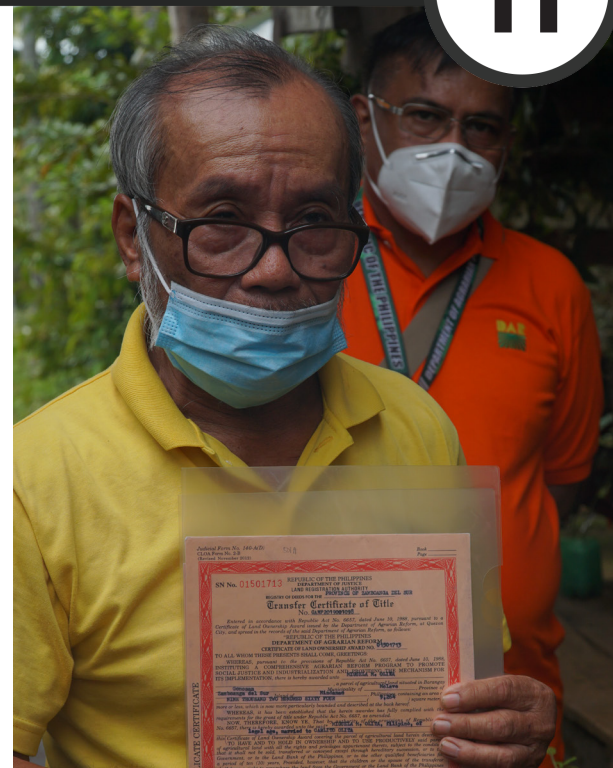
farmers,” Brother John said.

Zamboanga del Sur Governor Victor Yu said that the farmers in this town are very lucky for having a DAR Secretary who personally gives land titles right at their very own homes. This, he said, only means, that the DAR is sincere in helping the farmers.

“For our part, we want to assure you that the local government will continually provide the support you need in terms of improving your lands,” Yu said as he talks to the farmer-beneficiaries of DAR.

Farmer-recipient Fausto Calderon, providing assurance to Brother John that he would develop the land he received from the government said: “I believe that all farmers are hardworking, and they would even work harder if they see this kind of support and opportunity provided by the DAR.”

Prior to “Serbisyong DAR to Door”, Brother John also turned over a delivery truck, 4-wheel drive truck and warehouse worth PhP 3.2 million in Barangay Campo IV, Ramon Magsaysay town to improve their farm productivity. 🌱



Serbisyong

DAR to DOOR

DAR DISTRIBUTES LANDS IN BENGUET, TURNS OVER P6.7-M SUPPORT SERVICES

By: Pinky F. Roque

LEONCIO Andres, a farmer-beneficiary and a resident of Barangay Tuel in Tublay, La Trinidad never thought of owning a land.

"I thought before that lands are only for the rich," Andres admitted to agrarian reform Secretary Brother John Castriciones, when the latter personally delivered his land title right at his doorstep.

He said that now, poor farmers can own the land they till through the program of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP).

"Salamat DAR, salamat President Duterte," Andres exclaimed as he happily accepted his land title.

Another farmer, Buguosen Pilay was teary-eyed after receiving his land title from Brother John.

"I did not expect to receive this land title at this time of the pandemic with Brother John himself leading the distribution," Pilay said.

Andres and Pilay were among the seven agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) visited by Brother John thru the department's "Serbisong DAR to Door" where Bro. John himself delivered the

land titles to the beneficiaries' homes in a move to empower local farmers.

After the DAR-to-Door service, Brother John proceeded to the municipal open gym of Alno to formally distribute the 370 hectares of land to the 356 ARBs. The agricultural lands distributed are from the municipalities of Bakun, Bokod, Kapangan, Kibungan, Sablan, Tuba and Tublay.

In his message to the farmers, Brother John emphasized that their land titles signify their freedom from the bondage of tenancy.

"I'm happy that you are now owners of the land you have been tilling for years," Brother John said.

During the event, Brother John together with Undersecretary for support services Emily Padilla, also turned over various support services worth P6.7 million.

Padilla said the support services office were coursed through cooperatives. She said more than 1,500 farmers will benefit from the support services. Of these number, 356 are agrarian reform beneficiaries.

A solar-powered irrigation system worth P800,000 was turned over to Alno

Rural Community Development Cooperative to increase the farm productivity of its farmer-members.

"Based on our studies, we have identified Alno in La Trinidad as one of the most arid places in Benguet, meaning, some areas here are too dry or too barren to support vegetation. We are providing our farmers with this solar-powered irrigation because we know that this will greatly increase their vegetable and flower production," Emily Padilla said.

Padilla said the solar-powered irrigation is a complete system that provides fresh water from a well and reservoir for use in livestock, domestic use, and industrial agriculture.

"This irrigation project will address the ARC's problem of extreme dryness during summer, especially if there is an El Niño phenomenon where there is an absence of rain that lasts for months," she added.

Sixty (60) units of power tillers worth P2 million were also turned over to six cooperatives to be used for vegetable farming by 317 farmer-members.

Other support service that was turned over were: microfinancing worth P2 million, livelihood support project for

P600,000, seed capital assistance for P800,000, and enterprise development training worth P580,000.

Leaders of recipient cooperatives expressed gratitude to DAR and President Duterte for the release of the projects. 🌱

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