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Republika ng Pilipinas

Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

OUA MEMO 00-0820-0143

MEMORANDUM

26 August 2020

For: **Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents**

Subject: **GUIDELINES ON THE UTILIZATION OF DOWNLOADED
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE INTEGRATED SCHOOL NUTRITION MODEL FOR CY
2020**

The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services - School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), adopted in 2018 the **Integrated School Nutrition Model (ISNM)** by scaling-out to two hundred twenty-one (221) Schools Division Offices nationwide and for implementation by one (1) lighthouse per SDO, including the 58 lighthouse schools initially established in Calabarzon.

The ISNM integrated three (3) major components namely : Bio-intensive School Gardens which are Gulayan sa Paaralan Program (GPP) gardens enhanced using ecological gardening practices to improve productivity and sustainability; School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP) which uses Iron-fortified and indigenous vegetables from school gardens to feed undernourished Kinder to Grade 6 learners; and Nutrition Education which uses combination of learning strategies to promote the importance of nutrient-dense food, good eating habits, and increased consumption of fruits and vegetables to learners and parents.

The ISNM started as an action research project funded by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) in 2012-2015. Research was collaboratively undertaken in Region IV-A by the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST), and DepEd Calabarzon.

Integrating nutrition-related interventions resulted to the following: enhanced garden productivity and functionality, improved year-round availability of diverse vegetables with lesser inputs, easier maintenance of gardens, and overall improvement in yield and crop performance. Conservation and mass production of indigenous vegetables through the establishment of crop museums, improved



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nutritional state of schoolchildren, and improved knowledge and attitude towards nutrition and gardening through education.

A Lighthouse School (LS) is an exemplary demonstration site of what can be achieved when various school-based nutrition and gardening activities are integrated. Every LS features a regular school-based feeding program, a well-maintained/ sustained bio-intensive garden, and related school-based nutrition education activities. It also serves as a discovery, learning, sharing and dissemination hub for communities and other schools to learn about the Integrated Nutrition Model. Hence, the lighthouse schools are encouraged to provide technical assistance to other schools within their division in establishing crop museums and undertake seed exchanges twice in a school year to ensure conservation and mass production of indigenous vegetables and increase its consumption by the learners, their families, and the community.

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For SY 2020-2021, the financial assistance to the established lighthouse schools is Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00). At this time that the country is faced with the COVID-19 pandemic which brought about a negative impact to the economy, educational programs such as ISNM brings awareness on the importance of good nutrition to one's health and immunity and at the same time highlights how a vegetable garden can be economically beneficial to the family by producing their own food.

The following guidelines are hereby issued for the utilization of the downloaded financial assistance to lighthouse schools subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations:


1. Purchase of garden inputs for the improvement/maintenance of vegetable gardens.
2. Establishment of crop museum and nurseries of indigenous vegetables.
3. Reproduction of appropriate nutrition education materials.
4. Conduct of advocacy activities on the integration of bio-intensive gardens, school feeding, and nutrition education.

For immediate and appropriate action.



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ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary

