

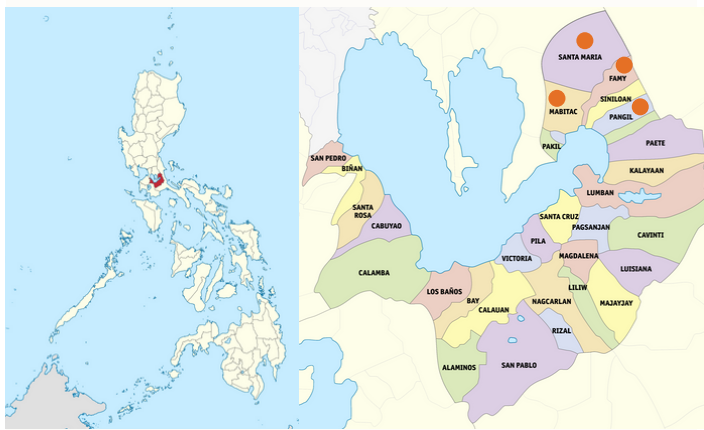


BRIEFER

aGAP Social Enterprise: Delivering a Complete Package of Farming Solutions to Small-Scale Farmers through Roving Agents

The aGAP (Asenso sa Good Agricultural Package) is a social enterprise model that offers a range of solutions for smallholder farmers. The model seeks to connect businesses and combine services for the supply of agricultural resources such as seed, fertilizer, farm tools and equipment, while providing education, financial connection, and market facilitation at the local level.

Project Location: Laguna Province, Philippines



Location and Target Population (Direct and Indirect)

Municipalities

Famy, Santa Maria, Mabitac, and Pangil

The project will target these low-income class municipalities and with agriculture-based livelihoods. Small-scale farmers in these areas have costly and or unreliable access to farming inputs, technology, and markets for their produce. Also, the target areas experience crop failure due to effects of natural hazards (drought, flooding, and typhoons).

Background and Context

Many of the 5.7 million poor and marginalized smallholder farmers in the Philippines do not produce enough to attain livelihood security.



For many farmers in remote villages, they cannot buy quality seed, fertilizer, or essential farming equipment, and have no way of learning new climate-smart farming practices to improve production.

Markets where they can sell produce for higher prices are too distant.

All these contribute to poverty and food insecurity.

The agricultural sector in the province of Laguna is a vital component of the local economy, contributing significantly to livelihoods and food production. It encompasses diverse agricultural activities such as rice and corn cultivation, fruit orchards, vegetable farming, livestock and poultry production, aquaculture, and agro-processing.

Laguna's fertile plains, hilly areas, and proximity to Laguna de Bay provide favorable conditions for agricultural production.

However, rapid urbanization and changing climactic conditions pose a threat to the agricultural sector in Laguna. Like its neighboring provinces, the western side of Laguna has partly switched from agricultural to industrial economy.

At present, farmers and fisherfolk are still struggling to survive on their own capacities. Collaborative efforts involving government agencies, industry associations, financial institutions, and input suppliers are necessary to address these challenges and support the operations of agricultural input dealers while meeting the needs of farmers.

The aGAP SE project aims to provide a holistic solution to ensure farmers resilience by increasing their productivity and profitability through the complete package of farming solutions (quality seeds, fertilizer, tools, knowledge, insurance, finance, and markets) to improve climate resilience, productivity and income.

Goal, Objectives and Expected Results

The aGAP Social Enterprise Project will design and implement sets of gender responsive and risks-informed activities/interventions that intend to accomplish the following goal, objectives, and results within the four-year period.



Goal

Improved economic well-being and resilience of 28 roving agents and 2,100 small-scale farming households in Laguna.



Objectives

1. Reduced barriers to small-scale farmers of all genders, especially women and youth, in managing their resilient agriculture-based livelihoods/enterprises, in particular vegetables and tropical fruits.
2. Enhanced and gender equitable access of small-scale farmers of all genders, especially women and youth, to needed resources from support ecosystem.



Expected Results

1. aGAP Roving Agents (ARAs) delivering gender responsive and sustainable aGAP services to small-scale farmers of all genders, especially women and youth.
2. Enhanced mechanisms for inclusive and equitable participation among small-scale farmers of all genders, especially women and youth, in climate smart, good agricultural and business practices.
3. Improved knowledge, skills, and motivation of small-scale farmers of all genders, especially women & youth, to engage in climate smart, good agricultural and business practices.
4. Improved processes of support ecosystem stakeholders in delivering gender responsive and risks-informed programs/services to small-scale farmers of all genders, especially women and youth.

Project Participants (direct and indirect)



8,512 individuals

(2,128 direct and 6,384 indirect beneficiaries) will benefit from this project, based on an average of four members per household.

This livelihood project will provide direct assistance to a total of **2,128 small-scale farmers** of all genders in four focus municipalities in the province of Laguna.

The category of direct assistance and target beneficiaries are as follows:

28 aGAP Roving Agents or ARAs

(at least 70% women & female youth) provided with a package of gender responsive and risks-informed capacity strengthening and business support to sustainably deliver aGAP package of services.

2,100 small-scale farmers of all genders

(at least 60% women) provided with gender responsive and risks-informed aGAP package of services based on average ARA caseload of at least 75 small-scale farming households.



Tijori Foundation

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FOUNDATION

The Tijori Foundation was founded on December 2, 2014. The purposes for which the Corporation is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational.

It includes improving the lives of low-income and at-risk youth by providing opportunities to succeed athletically, academically and socially through programs focused on sports, tennis in particular, and academic achievement, and which promote discipline, character and leadership skills.

It supports and cooperates with other organizations or programs, whether local, national or international.



CARE is dedicated to ending poverty worldwide.

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Working with partners, CARE uses effective models and approaches to support the most marginalized communities to overcome poverty, social injustice and humanitarian crises.



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