

- About half of all Filipinos live in rural farming or fishing areas, and 70% of the poor families in the country are rural.
- Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) show that the poverty incidence among fishermen is 39.2%, and 38.3 % among farmers.
- The average income of Filipino farmers, whose average age is 57, is only P2,300.00 a month, working on his 1.5-hectare farm.
- The younger generation, who saw their parents grow old and poor in farming, do not see agriculture as a lucrative career.
- There is no assurance that there will be "successor farmers" to take over the task of producing food for the growing population.

(Based on PAFSE Implementing Guidelines, 2016)

Providing access to technical-vocational education and training (TVET) thru the Agri-Fishery farm schools is one of the strategies in achieving the long-term goal of rural development.

## Given the above scenario, **PAFSE** seeks to achieve the following objectives:



- To accelerate the establishment of farm schools in all municipalities nationwide and ensure that poor farmers and fisherfolks, their families and relatives gain appropriate knowledge, skills and attitude in increasing the farm productivity through technology updates and entrepreneurial activities, thus improving their economic status in life.
- To provide scholarship grants to the farmers and fisherfolks, their families and relatives, extension workers and facilitators and trainers to assist the farm owners in building the capability and capacity of their farms.

## PAFSE is part of TESDA's EBT Program

## What is TESDA's EBT Program?



Enterprise-Based Training (EBT) Program refers to technical-vocational education and training (TVET) programs delivered in the enterprise, which may be in-plant or stand-alone, or may be linked with a training provider. These programs are offered to an industry group or to enterprises, employees and individuals.

### EBT programs can be any of the following:

- I. Apprenticeship Program
- 2. Learnership Program
- 3. Dual Training System (DTS)
- 4. Supervised Industry Learning (SIL)
- 5. Program on Accelerating Farm School Establishment (PAFSE)

### PROGRAM ON ACCELERATING FARM SCHOOL ESTABLISHMENT (PAFSE)

is a program that aims to accelerate the establishment of farm schools, adopting the concept of learning by doing through farmer-to-farmer approach, demand responsive and interactive learning, and matched to the farm season.



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#### Learn more about:

- PAFSE at a glance
- Components of PAFSE
- Incentives
- Program Expectations
- Mechanics of implementation



## COMPONENTS OF PAFSE

# PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS:

### **Scope and Coverage**

- All accredited Learning Sites (LSs), Schools for Practical Agriculture (SPAs), Extension Service Providers (ESPs) of the DA-ATI
- Identified Farm Business Schools (FBS) and LinksFarm Sites (LFS) of the DAR
- Other farm schools not accredited by DA-ATI and DAR

### **Target beneficiaries:**

- The farmers and fisher folks and their relatives up to the 4th level of consanguinity.
- Members of the community of the farm school.
   As scholars, they are entitled to free training and assessment.

#### **Incentives:**

- Training for Work Scholarship Program (TWSP)
   Scholarship Funds to cover training and assessment fees
- Training fee for Entrepreneurship training included in the scholarship grant for medium to large farm schools

- To develop the entrepreneurial skills of the farmers and to help increase their income, entrepreneurship training is included in the program.
- Based on the <u>Farm Field Schools (FFS)</u> developed by the UN Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) to help farmers become competitive.
- The focus is on the content and not the training facility: <u>"learning by doing"</u>, farmer-to-farmer.
- FFS consists of groups of farmers
   (20-25 in number) who get together to study a particular topic.
- FFS <u>empowers the farmers</u> with knowledge, skills and attitude.
- The curriculum follows the <u>natural</u> <u>seasonal cycle</u> of the crop, animal, soil or whatever areas (e.g. ecology, sociology) to allow all aspects to be covered in what is happening in the FFS.

# MECHANICS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Interested participants need to <u>register</u> their programs with TESDA through the Provincial Offices.

### The farms are classified into five (5) levels:

- I. Marginal Farms: below I hectare
- 2. Small Farms: I to 2 hectares
- 3. Semi-Medium Farms: 2 to 4 hectares
- 4. Medium Farms: 4 to 10 hectares
- 5. Large Farms: over 10 hectares

### **Training Program**

- Program shall be registered under TESDA's program registration system.
- Entrepreneurship training included in the scholarship grant for medium to large farm schools.

