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Chapter 2

Extension Services

**SEC. 86. *Declaration of Policy.*** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote science and technology as essential for national development and progress. The state shall give priority to the utilization of research results through formal and non-formal education, extension, and training services. It shall support the development of a national extension system that will help accelerate the transformation of Philippine agriculture and fisheries from a resource-based to a technology-based industry.

**SEC. 87. *Extension Services.*** - Agriculture and Fisheries extension services shall cover the following major services to the farming and fishing community:

- a.) Training services;
- b.) Farm or business advisory services;
- c.) Demonstration services; and
- d.) Information and communication support services through tri-media.

**SEC. 88. *Special Concerns in the Delivery of Extension Services.*** - The delivery of Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Services shall be multidisciplinary and shall involve the farmers, fisherfolk and their organizations, and those engaged in food and non-food production and processing, including the private and public sectors.

There shall be a national merit and promotion system governing all extension personnel, regardless of source of funding, to promote professionalism and achieve excellence and productivity in the provision of the government extension services.

**SEC. 89. *The National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries (NESAF).*** - The Department, in coordination with the appropriate government agencies, shall formulate a National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries.

The National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries shall be composed of three (3) subsystems:

- a.) The national government subsystem which directly complements;
- b.) The local government subsystems; and
- c.) The private sector subsystem

**SEC. 90. *The Role of Local Government Units.*** - The LGUs shall be responsible for delivering direct agriculture and fisheries extension services.

The provincial governments shall integrate the operations for the agriculture extension services and shall undertake an annual evaluation of all municipal extension programs.

The extension program of state colleges and universities shall primarily focus on the improvement of the capability of the LGU extension service by providing

- a.) Degree and non-degree training programs;
- b.) Technical assistance;
- c.) Extension cum research activities;
- d.) Monitoring and evaluation of LGU extension projects; and
- e.) Information support services through the tri-media and electronics.

**SEC. 91. *Role of the Private Sector in Extension.*** - The Department shall encourage the participation of farmers and fisherfolk cooperatives and associations and others in the private sector in training and other complementary extension services especially in community organizing, use of participatory approaches, popularization of training materials; regenerative agricultural technologies, agribusiness and management skills.

The Department is hereby authorized to commission and provide funding for such training and extension services undertaken by the private sector.

**SEC. 92. *The Role of Government of Agencies.*** - The Department, together with state colleges and universities shall assist in the LGU's extension system by improving their effectiveness and efficiency through capability-building and complementary extension activities such as:

- a.) technical assistance;
- b.) training of LGU extension personnel;
- c.) improvement of physical facilities;
- d.) extension cum research; and
- e.) information support services.

**SEC. 93. *Funding for Extension Activities.*** - Extension activities shall be supported by the following measures:

- a.) allocation of multi-year budgets that shall be treated as grants;
- b.) allow transfer of funds from the Department to the local government units as extension grants and
- c.) the budget for agriculture and fisheries extension services shall be at least one percent (1%) of the gross value added (GVA) by year 2001.

**SEC. 94. *Excellence and Accountability in Extension.*** - The Department shall formulate the guidelines in evaluating extension activities and institutions, which shall involve an independent and interdisciplinary team of collegial reviewers and evaluators.

**SEC. 95. *Extension Communication Support for LGUs.*** - The Department, in coordination with the public and private universities and colleges, shall develop an integrated multimedia support for national and LGU extension programs. The Department shall assist the LGUs in the computerization of communication support services to clients and linkages to the NIN.