

Philippines inks MOA with NCIP to address IP poverty, boost agri growth

12 July 2023 | News

MOA for the implementation of the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP).



MOA for the implementation of the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP).

To resolve persistent poverty among indigenous peoples (IP) in Mindanao, the Department of Agriculture and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) signed on Monday, July 10, 2023 a Memorandum of Agreement for the implementation of the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP).

The project aims to enhance agricultural productivity and improve access to market and services for farmers and fisherfolk in selected ancestral domains in the region. It has a total cost of Php6.6 billion (B), wherein Php 5.3B will be coming from the World Bank loan financing scheme.

“MIADP is designed to build the capabilities of local governments to increase the farm productivity and business opportunities of 120,000 indigenous farmers and fisherfolk in six regions across Mindanao. This is a project that corrects a long history of neglect on the part of our government and society,” DA Senior Undersecretary Domingo Panganiban said.

Underscoring the importance of the indigenous community in the Southern Philippine region. NCIP Chairperson Allen Capuyan said, "Ang katutubong pamayanan ay isang napaka-significant na sektor sa Mindanao. Almost one half of the Mindanao land area is ancestral domains and also half of the Mindanao population is IP. I am very glad that the MOA signing will formalize everything so that the communities in Mindanao will become resilient, relevant, and responsive."

Under the agreement, DA will lead the planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and other relevant activities. It will also provide technical support and assistance and ensure that all activities will be in accordance with environmental and social safeguards.

NCIP, for its part, shall select and endorse IPs and Indigenous Cultural Communities and facilitate processes related to the conduct of the program, including the gathering of necessary data such as Ancestral Domain Title, Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claim, Certificate of Ancestral Land Title, and other pertinent documents.

The MIADP has a social preparation component that will capacitate IP organizations during the first year of implementation. It is expected to commence by August this year and will run until 2028.