



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

The Philippines

Data in Emergencies

Monitoring brief – round 2

Results and recommendations

May 2022

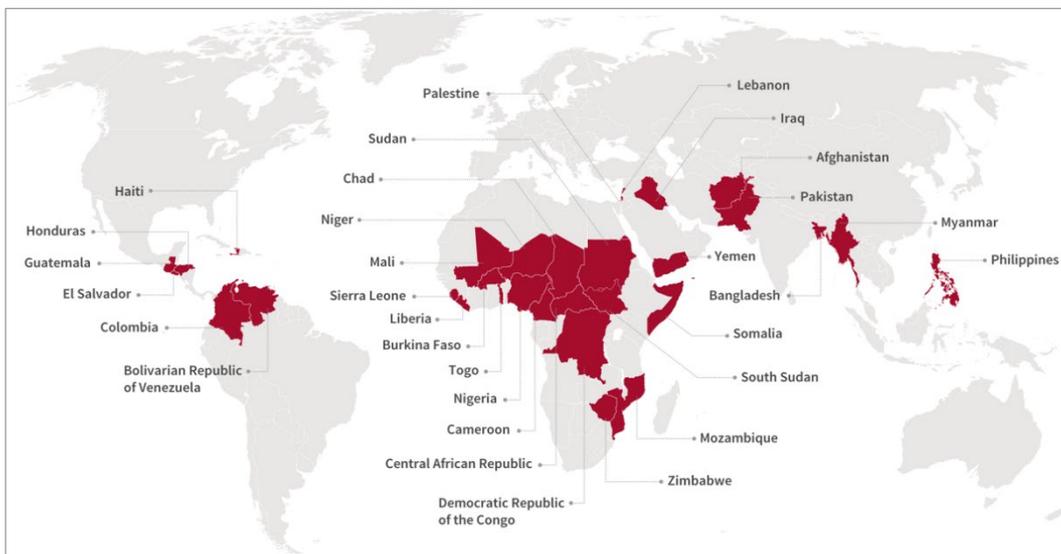
Data collection 26 January to 2 March 2022

Methodology

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) launched a household survey in the Philippines through the Data in Emergencies Monitoring (DIEM-Monitoring) System to monitor agricultural livelihoods and food security. This second-round survey utilized a random sample of 1 904 households at the Admin 1 level (Region). The survey targeted the regions of Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), Cagayan Valley (Region II), Calabarzon (Region IV-A), Central Luzon (Region III), Ilocos Region (Region I), Soccsksargen (Region XII) and Western Visayas (Region VI). The survey was complemented by interviews with extension officers, agricultural input dealers and food traders.

The data, collected from 26 January to 2 March 2022, were weighted by demographics, urban/rural setting and sanitation facilities (flush and not flush) as a proxy for wealth. This survey followed the first-round of data collection conducted from 13 August to 1 October 2021.¹

Figure 1. Countries with established DIEM-Monitoring Systems



Source of map: United Nations. 2020. *Map of the World*. Cited 6 April 2022. un.org/geospatial/content/map-world

Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

¹ FAO. 2022. *The Philippines: Data in Emergencies Monitoring brief – round 1 (January 2022)*. Rome. fao.org/3/cb8405en/cb8405en.pdf

About DIEM-Monitoring

FAO established the DIEM-Monitoring System to collect, analyse and disseminate data on shocks and livelihoods in countries prone to multiple shocks. DIEM-Monitoring aims to inform decision making by providing regularly updated information on how different shocks are affecting the livelihoods and food security of agricultural populations.

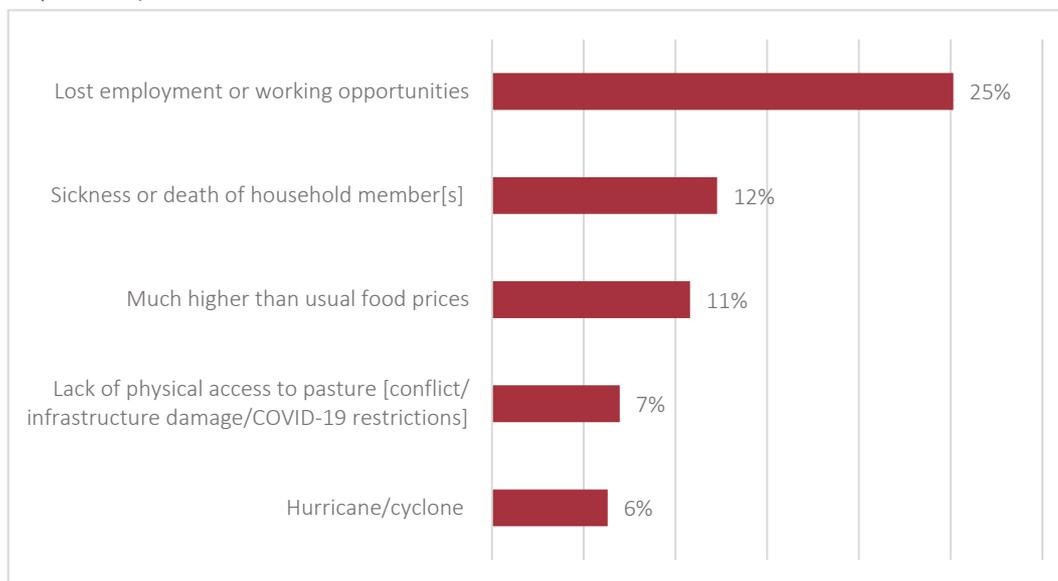
At the core of the DIEM-Monitoring System are country-level dashboards. Readers are encouraged to explore these dashboards to gain more insight into the context of the Philippines and other countries.

> Learn more at <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/monitoring>

Income and shocks

Fifty-six percent of households were affected by shocks over the three months preceding the survey, similar to the first round.² The most frequent shocks were economic in nature (Figure 2) and affected the regions in different ways. Most agricultural households reported that their income declined. In particular, households with livestock were more frequently affected by shocks (69 percent compared to 52 percent of non-agricultural households) and by decline in income (60 percent compared to 48 percent of non-agricultural households).

Figure 2. Main shocks affecting households over the three months preceding the survey (percentage of respondents)

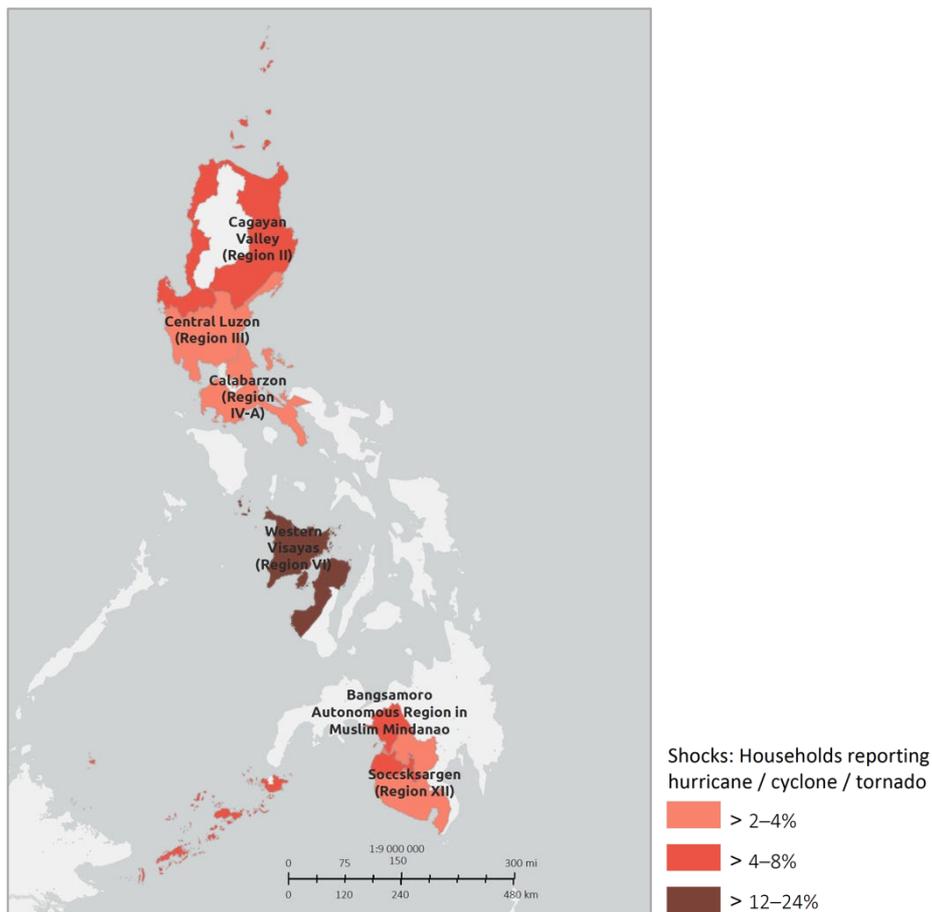


Source of data: FAO. 2022. The Philippines: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January–March 2022).

² FAO. 2022. *The Philippines: Data in Emergencies Monitoring brief – round 1 (January 2022)*. Rome. [fao.org/3/cb8405en/cb8405en.pdf](https://www.fao.org/3/cb8405en/cb8405en.pdf)

The economic shocks appear to be linked to COVID-19 restrictions as 94 percent of households that cited loss of employment were affected by restrictions. In particular, households affected by stay-at-home orders were more likely to be affected by shocks. In general, households relying on skilled jobs more frequently cited shocks, but also casual farm labourers and those working in other sectors. In addition to economic shocks, Western Visayas was impacted by the recent Typhoon Odette/Rai (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Households affected by the typhoon (percentage of respondents)



Source of data: FAO. 2022. The Philippines: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January–March 2022).

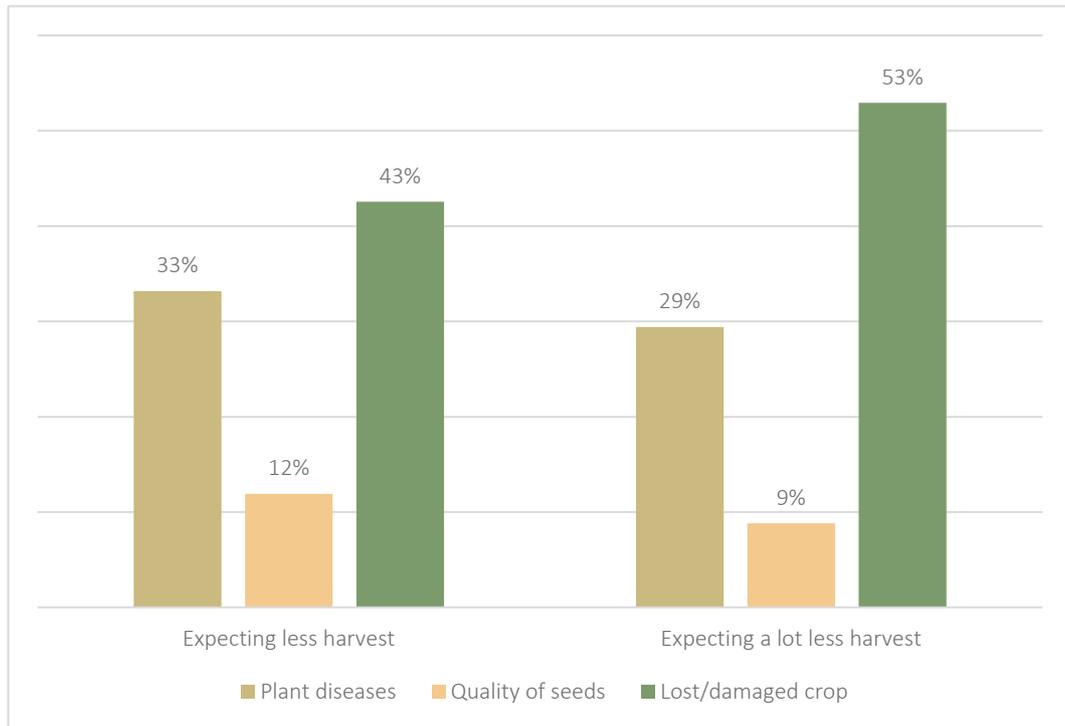
Source of map: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS. 2018. *Map of the Philippines*. Cited 7 April 2022.

<https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/explore>

Crops

The most cited difficulty, over the three months preceding the survey, for crop production was crop loss or damage due to pests or hazards followed by plant disease (Figure 4). Among crop producers who expected less harvest when compared to a typical year, 43 percent of respondents cited crop loss. Among crop producers who expected a lot less harvest, 53 percent cited crop loss. The difficulties were particularly prominent in Calabarzon and Western Visayas. These data are comparable to those collected in the previous round. In terms of marketing crops, the most cited difficulties were low prices and high marketing costs, especially in Central Luzon.

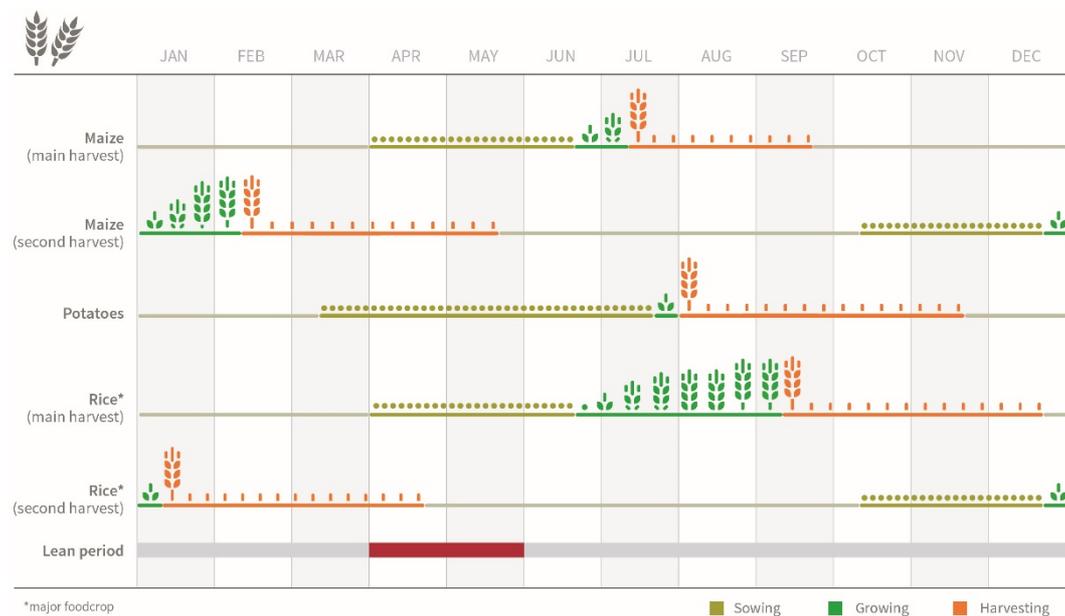
Figure 4. Difficulties among crop producers who expect less or a lot less harvest (percentage of respondent crop producers)



Source of data: FAO. 2022. The Philippines: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January–March 2022).

For all crop types, except coconut and fruit, a large proportion of respondents cultivated the same land area relative to the same season in a typical year. In contrast, and most frequently in the southern regions, almost half of the respondent crop producers expected a decrease in production with 49 percent of rice producers expecting less or much less than normal harvest, for example.

Figure 5. The Philippines crop calendar



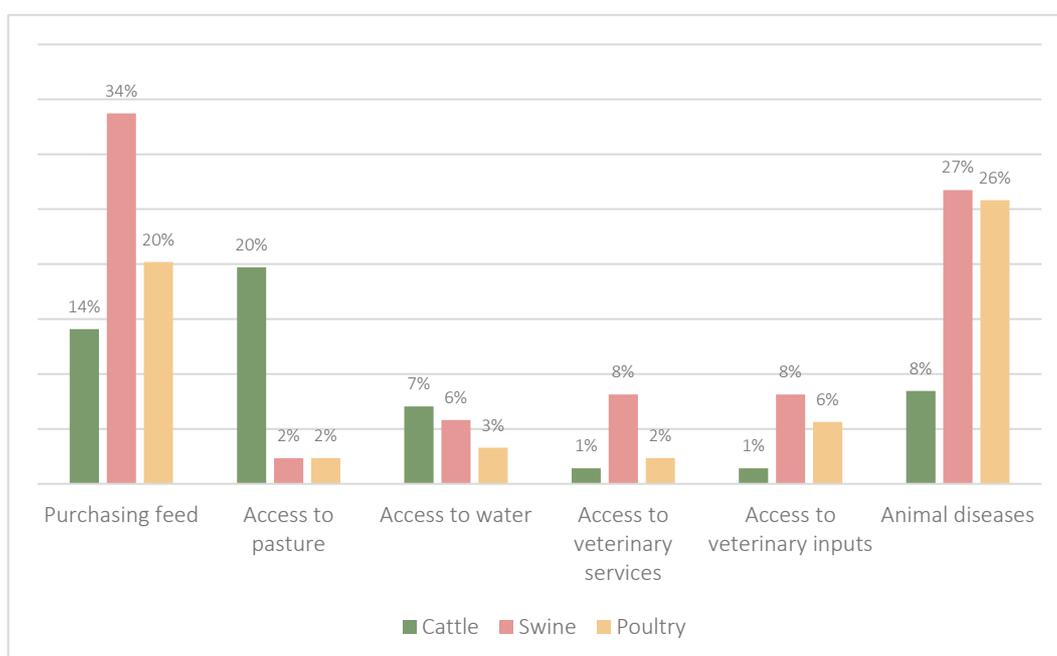
Source of data: FAO. 2021. GIEWS – Global Information and Early Warning System: Country briefs – The Philippines. In: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Rome. Cited 7 April 2022. fao.org/giews/countrybrief/country.jsp?code=PHL&lang=en

Livestock

Most livestock producers cited accessing feed and livestock disease as the main difficulties faced over the three months preceding the survey (Figure 6). Producers from BARMM faced greater difficulty accessing water compared to those from other regions. Respondents in Calabarzon were more affected by poor access to markets to buy young animals. Cattle producers indicated that access to pasture was the most difficult while poultry and swine producers cited animal diseases and limited ability to purchase feed, consistent with findings from the first-round of data collection.

For marketing animal products, the most cited difficulties were low selling prices and difficulty accessing the market. Respondents from Calabarzon were more affected by the former while those from Western Visayas were mainly impacted by the latter. Livestock producers from Calabarzon were more affected by low demand and access to slaughterhouses when compared to those from other regions.

Figure 6. Livestock production difficulties by main species over the three months preceding the survey (percentage of respondent livestock producers)



Source of data: FAO. 2022. The Philippines: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January–March 2022).

Food security

The prevalence of recent food insecurity (RFI), assessed with the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), was slightly higher among agricultural households than non-agricultural households (Figure 7). By region, it was highest in Soccsksargen (51 percent – 11 percent severe – compared to 49 percent and 7 percent severe in the previous round); BARMM (50 percent – 14 percent severe – up from 42 percent and 6 percent); and Western Visayas (45 percent – 9 percent severe – up from 41 percent and 6 percent). Cagayan, which had a high prevalence of food insecurity in the last round of data collection improved, but the difference is not

statistically significant. The Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)³ showed a more marked decapitalization (crisis and emergency coping strategies) in the areas with higher prevalence of RFI.

Figure 7. Prevalence of severe RFI and severe and moderate RFI (above) and LSCI distribution (below) by region

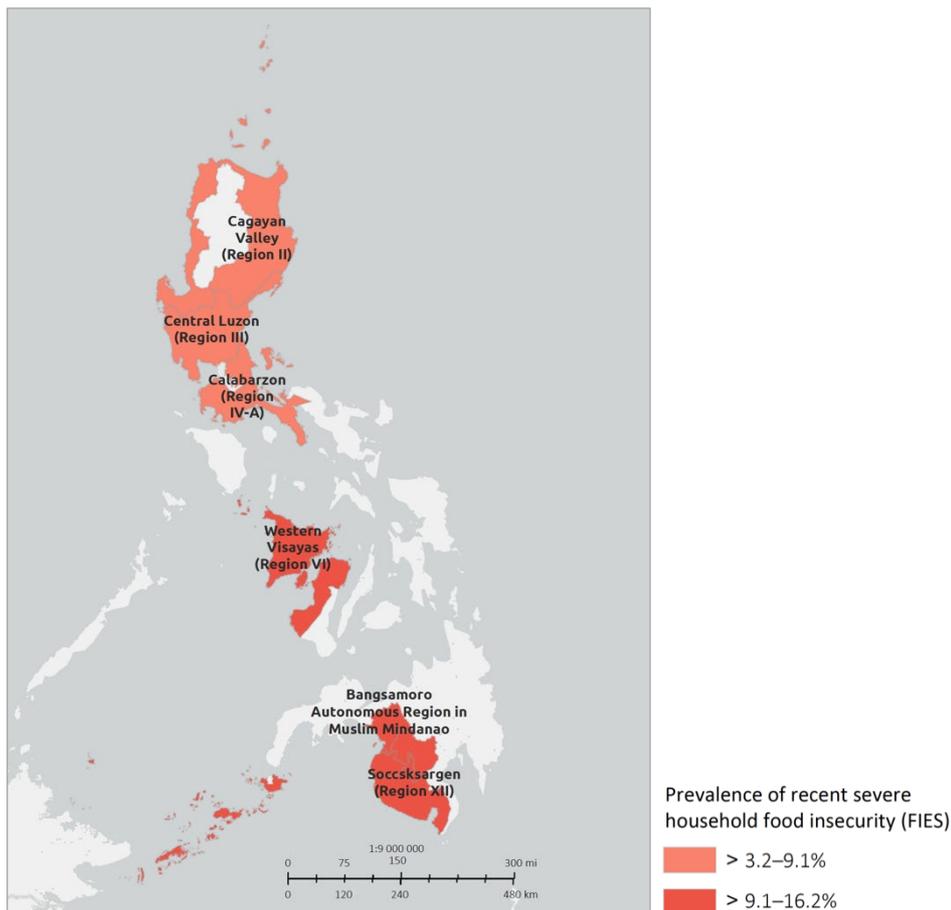


Source of data: FAO. 2022. The Philippines: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January–March 2022).

³ LCSI is used as an indicator to measure the coping strategies households utilize as a response to a lack of food (or money to purchase food) during the 30 days prior to the survey. It was used to understand the stress and insecurity faced by households – and their capacity for future productivity. Coping strategies are classified as “Stress”, “Crisis” or “Emergency” according to the degree of livelihood asset depletion: coping strategies categorized as “Stress” include borrowing money or spending savings, indicating a reduced ability to deal with future shocks due to reduced resources or increased debts. Coping strategies categorized as “Crisis”, such as selling productive assets, threaten future productivity, including human capital formation. Strategies classified as “Emergency”, such as selling one’s land, also affect future productivity, but are more difficult to reverse or more dramatic in nature.

The fact that worse outcomes were concentrated among poorer households that reported lower education suggests that food insecurity is also associated with structural conditions. However, shocks (loss of employment in particular) were associated with a higher prevalence of RFI. Economic vulnerability was higher among the poorest strata of the population, and when shocks hit, these segments showed the worst prevalence of food insecurity and decapitalization.

Figure 8. Prevalence of recent severe food insecurity, assessed with the FIES (percentage of respondent livestock producers)



Source of data: FAO. 2022. The Philippines: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January–March 2022).

Source of map: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS. 2018. *Map of the Philippines*. Cited 7 April 2022. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/explore>

Needs

Seventy-one percent of agricultural households reported needs, particularly those from BARMM. Seeds and fertilizers were the most frequent needs indicated by crop producers, while animal feed and livestock re-stocking were reported by livestock producers.

Food was the most frequent assistance provided in the three months prior to the survey (39 percent) and assistance was provided to almost half of the sample.

Recommendations

- > Given the country's exposure to natural hazards programming on anticipatory action, disaster risk reduction and management should be supported. BARMM and Western Visayas, as well as other vulnerable communities, should be prioritized.
- > A nationwide market assessment to identify the areas where social protection interventions, including food assistance to smallholder agricultural producers, should be implemented.
- > Strengthen the links between agricultural extension and early warning of crop pests and diseases: crop producers should be involved in disease surveillance programmes via extension agents, and municipalities should improve communication with the Department of Agriculture and FAO.
- > Sustain efforts to eradicate African swine fever with an emphasis on strengthening local capacities to control the disease in hotspots.
- > Support livestock insurance programmes and other efforts to encourage production.
- > Regular monitoring of areas with higher prevalence of severe food insecurity such as Soccsksargen, BARMM and Western Visayas.



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Contact

FAO Representation in the Philippines

FAO-PH@fao.org
fao.org/philippines | @FAOPhilippines
Mandaluyong City, the Philippines

Office of Emergencies and Resilience

OER-Director@fao.org
fao.org/emergencies | @FAOEmergencies
Rome, Italy

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