



Republic of the Philippines
DA - DAR - DENR - DILG
NATIONAL CONVERGENCE INITIATIVE FOR
SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(NCI-SRD)

DA-DAR-DENR-DILG JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER (JAO) NO. ____
Series of 2019

Subject : **Revised DA-DAR-DENR-DILG Joint Administrative Order No. 01 Series of 2015 (Strengthening the Implementation Framework for the DA-DAR-DENR-DILG National Convergence Initiative for Sustainable Rural Development)**

PREFATORY STATEMENT

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 5, Series of 2016 mandating the adoption of “*AmBisyon Natin 2040*” as a guide for development planning in the country and the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022 directing the government to complement strategic efforts with environmental and governance strategies through the national convergence initiatives using the ridge-to-reef approach and the sustainable integrated area development (SIAD) for the sustainable management of natural resources and rural development, the DA-DAR-DENR-DILG Joint Administrative Order No. 01, Series of 2015 is hereby revised.

To achieve the goals of contributing to inclusive growth and poverty reduction, activities of the National Convergence Initiative for Sustainable Rural Development (NCI-SRD) shall contribute to the following targeted outcomes as prescribed in Chapters 8 (Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries) and 20 (Ensuring Ecological Integrity, Clean and Healthy Environment) of the PDP 2017-2022:

1. Economic opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (AFF) expanded;
2. Access to economic opportunities increased;
3. Biodiversity and functioning of ecosystem services sustained;
4. Environmental quality improved; and
5. Adaptive capacities and resilience of ecosystems increased.

To operationalize these targeted outcomes, the NCI-SRD Roadmap (2018-2030) issued in 2018 laid down the conceptual, policy, and operational frameworks of

the organization. It also spelled out the organization's vision, mission, strategic thrusts/directions, and strategic plans and targets for FY 2018-2022.

SECTION 1. Scope and Coverage

This Order shall cover the mechanisms and operationalization of the NCI-SRD strategy from the national to the municipal/city levels where the NCI-SRD strategy is implemented.

SECTION 2. Guiding Principles

- 2.1 Convergence Initiative is a response to the fragmented delivery of rural development services towards improved governance and optimized use of resources.
- 2.2 Convergence Initiative is a strategy to strengthen the Local Government Units (LGUs) to grow sustainable local economies.
- 2.3 The ridge-to-reef approach shall be the tool for the interventions in the convergence areas.
- 2.4 In response to the poverty reduction goal of the government, the Convergence Initiative shall have a defined constituency. Interventions shall focus on the smallholder farmers (both agrarian reform beneficiaries or ARBs and non-ARBs), small fisherfolk, upland dwellers, and Indigenous Peoples (IPs).
- 2.5 The implementation of the Convergence Initiative shall be guided by the following:
 - a. The Convergence Initiative shall be treated as a complementation strategy between and among the NCI-SRD agencies (DA-DAR-DENR-DILG). It shall encourage the assistance of other national line agencies, state universities and colleges (SUCs), government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), donor agencies, and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs), IPs, and other relevant stakeholders.
 - b. The primacy of the LGUs as the integrating and converging force for sustainable rural development at the local level shall be strengthened.
 - c. The participatory approach shall be adopted in all phases of development: planning and budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, and knowledge sharing.
 - d. Complementation of resources and expertise of the concerned agencies and LGUs shall be considered in the implementation of the Convergence Initiative.
 - e. Private sector investment shall be encouraged in convergence areas.

SECTION 3. Objectives

The JAO shall provide the principles, strategic thrusts and directions, implementing mechanisms and organizational structure, funding, and system of monitoring and evaluation of the NCI-SRD.

SECTION 4. Strategic Thrusts and Directions

The NCI-SRD Roadmap stipulated the following strategic thrusts and directions of the NCI-SRD for 2018-2030, which will contribute to the AFF and Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) sector targeted outcomes:

- 4.1 Establish at least one (1) convergence area per region;
- 4.2 Focus convergence strategies in the 143 critical watersheds (of which 18 river basins are identified), as may be applicable;
- 4.3 Promote clean air, water, and waste management to improve environmental quality in convergence areas;
- 4.4 Promote sustainable soil and land management to address land degradation for watershed rehabilitation and recovery in convergence areas;
- 4.5 Promote biodiversity conservation of flora and fauna in convergence areas;
- 4.6 Strengthen the Regional Convergence Initiative (RCI) TWG, Provincial Convergence Initiative (PCI) TWG, and Municipal/City Convergence Initiative (MCI/CCI) TWG;
- 4.7 Strengthen the joint planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, and knowledge sharing;
- 4.8 Strengthen the NCI-SRD Secretariat manpower complement;
- 4.9 Implement the NCI-SRD Joint Resolution No. 02 Series of 2018 (Designation of the Master in Public Management major in Rural Development [MPM-RD] Scholarship Program Graduates as Members of the National and Regional Technical Working Groups of the NCI-SRD);
- 4.10 Include NCI-SRD activities in the Individual Performance Commitment and Review (IPCR)/Division PCR (DPCR)/ Office PCR (OPCR) of NCI-SRD members;
- 4.11 Harmonize/streamline existing policies of the four (4) NCI-SRD agencies;
- 4.12 Develop AFF-enterprise cluster and business within the selected convergence areas, using the Value Chain Approach (VCA) and consistent with Provincial Commodity Investment Plans (PCIPs);
- 4.13 Implement and update as may be necessary, the national capacity development plan to cover all relevant stakeholders;
- 4.14 Develop relevant NCI-SRD manuals;

- 4.15 Develop a Knowledge Management (KM) system for the national, regional, provincial, and municipal/city convergence initiatives;
- 4.16 Enhance and implement the NCI-SRD strategic communication plan;
- 4.17 Promote maintenance and protection of existing forests as well as sustained rehabilitation of denuded forest lands to increase forest cover in convergence areas;
- 4.18 Protect mangroves, sea grass beds and coral reefs guided by a list of human interventions that have negative impacts in the watershed and upland ecosystem within the convergence areas; and
- 4.19 Develop a rehabilitation plan for marine habitats affected by human interventions in the watershed and upland ecosystem within the convergence areas.

SECTION 5. Definition of Terms

For purposes of this JAO, the following terms shall be defined:

- 5.1 Agribusiness – agriculture and fishery-based activities that put farmers, processors, distributors, consumers, and other players within a system that produces, processes, transports, markets, and distributes agricultural and fishery products using appropriate technologies and applications.
- 5.2 Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs) – farmers who were granted lands under Presidential Decree No. 27 (Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law) and Republic Act No. 9700 (Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Extension with Reforms), regular farm workers who are landless, irrespective of tenurial arrangement, who benefited from the redistribution of lands, regardless of crops or fruits produced, to include the totality of factors and support services designed to lift the economic status of the beneficiaries and all other alternative arrangements to the physical distribution of lands, such as production or profit-sharing, labor, administration, and the distribution of shares of stock which will allow beneficiaries to receive a just share of the fruits of the lands they work.
- 5.3 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (AFF)-enterprise – business venture, typically micro-, small-, and medium-scale, that can be undertaken either on- or off-farm or a service that can be used to support other businesses. It operates in a defined territory which may be a barangay (village), municipality or group of municipalities.
- 5.4 Capacity Development (CD) – process through which individuals, organization, and societies obtain, strengthen, and enhance competencies to set and achieve their own development objectives over time.
- 5.5 Civil Society Organization (CSO) – non-state and non-profit association that works to improve society and human conditions. Basic types of CSOs

include NGOs, POs, cooperatives, social movements, professional and business groups.

- 5.6 Convergence – integration, complementation, harmonization and optimization of institutional, technical, financial, and human resources.
- 5.7 Convergence Area – physical area where the NCI-SRD is implemented, which is identified based on a selection criteria, supported by a Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP), proposed by the LGU, and approved by the NSC.
- 5.8 Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP) – comprehensive plan that contains the strategies, programs, activities, and projects that will promote holistic and sustainable management of all resources within the convergence area.
- 5.9 Convergence Initiative – complementation of efforts and resources between and among the DA, DAR, DENR, DILG, LGUs and relevant stakeholders to promote and harmonize the delivery of AFF and rural development services towards sustainable rural development.
- 5.10 Ecosystem – community of living organisms interacting with each other and with their physical environment.
- 5.11 Information, Education, Communication and Motivational (IECM) - approaches to combine information, education, communication, and motivation into products that could be transmitted over communication channels or multi-media in order to interest or capture targeted clients.
- 5.12 Inclusive Growth – growth that is rapid enough to matter, given the country's large population, geographical differences, and social complexity. It is sustained growth that creates jobs, draws the vast majority into the economic and social mainstream, and continuously reduces mass poverty.
- 5.13 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – totality of electronic means to access, create, collect, store, process, receive, transmit, present, and disseminate information.
- 5.14 Indigenous People (IP) – group of people or homogenous societies identified by self-ascription and ascription by other, who have continuously lived as organized community on communally bounded and defined territory, and who have, under claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied, possessed customs, tradition and other distinctive cultural traits, or who have, through resistance to political, social and cultural inroads of colonization, non-indigenous religions and culture, became historically differentiated from the majority of Filipinos.
- 5.15 Key Production Area (KPA) – priority area, which include among others Agrarian Reform Areas (ARAs), whose agro-climatic and market conditions favor the production, processing, and marketing of specific AFF products.

- 5.16 Knowledge Management (KM) – range of strategies and practices used so that pertinent data and information is gathered, processed, disseminated, shared, and utilized to enable adoption of insights and experiences and to ensure that NCI-SRD programs, activities, and projects are designed, implemented, and monitored in an efficient and effective manner.
- 5.17 LGU alliances- inter-local cooperation formed through appropriate ordinances for the purpose of consolidation or coordination of efforts, services, and resources commonly beneficial to them.
- 5.18 Participatory Approach - systematic involvement of communities in various aspects and stages of decision-making pertaining to government programs, projects, and other interventions.
- 5.19 People’s Organization (PO) - grassroots organization legally registered or accredited whose membership is composed of smallholder farmers, small fisherfolk, industrial laborers, women, youth, and others, which are formed at the local, regional and national level. It also includes cooperatives, associations, etc.
- 5.20 Provincial Commodities Investment Plan (PCIP) – strategic plan that rationalizes the interventions with the various segments of the value chain of priority commodity/ies that are of significance to the province and that will contribute to the national goals of the agriculture and fishery sector. It is a three (3)-year rolling consensus plan between DA and the LGU based on the value chain analyses of these commodities, conducted with strong participation of the various stakeholders.
- 5.21 Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME) System - management tool that aims to keep track of the progress and end result of the project implementation within the convergence areas.
- 5.22 Ridge-to-Reef Approach – holistic, collaborative, multiple use and sustainable management of all resources within the watershed.
- 5.23 Rural Development – strategy to enable a specific group of people, poor rural women and men, to gain for themselves and their children more of what they want and need. It involves helping the poorest among those who seek a livelihood in the rural areas to demand and control more of the benefits of rural development. The group includes smallholder farmers, small fisherfolk, tenants, and the landless.
- 5.24 Small Fisherfolk - people directly or personally and physically engaged in taking and or culturing and processing fishery and/or aquatic resources.
- 5.25 Smallholder Farmers – marginal and sub-marginal farm households that own or/and cultivate not more than 3.0 hectares of land.
- 5.26 Sustainable Integrated Area Development (SIAD) - strategy that takes into account area-based interventions, concepts on integrated island development, and has people and integrity of nature at its core. This is

grounded on the basic principles of the Philippine Agenda 21, specifically on the integration of the various overarching dimensions and components of sustainable development and the need for participation of government, business and civil society as provided for under Executive Order No. 15, s. 1992 and Executive Order No. 370, s. 1996 (Draft DENR Guidelines).

- 5.27 Sustainable Rural Development (SRD) – improving the quality of life for the rural poor by developing capacities that promote community participation, health and education, food security, environmental protection, and sustainable economic growth, thereby enabling community members to leave the cycle of poverty and achieve their full potential for the present and future generations.
- 5.28 Watershed – land area drained by a stream or fixed body of water and its tributaries having a common outlet for surface run-off.

SECTION 6. Operationalization of the NCI-SRD Strategy through the Convergence Areas

The NCI-SRD strategy shall be operationalized in the identified convergence areas, where complementation of efforts and concerted and coordinated interventions from NCI-SRD agencies and other relevant stakeholders interplay to achieve optimum results.

6.1 Criteria for Selection of Convergence Areas

The identification and selection of convergence areas shall conform to the ridge-to-reef approach based on the following must and prioritization criteria, which shall be reviewed periodically:

6.1.1 Must Criteria

- a. *Completeness of ecosystem.* The convergence areas should cut across the various ecosystems or should be a combination of at least two (2) ecosystems.
- b. *Passer of Good Financial Housekeeping.* This is a proof that the LGU has good governance performance in internal housekeeping, particularly in sound fiscal management.

6.1.2 Prioritization Criteria

- a. *Presence of KPAs with potential for increased productivity and income.* The convergence areas should have tracts of land identified for agro-forestry and fisheries development for major production or with potential for expansion/ scaling up and/or

connection to allied industries/ services for backward and forward integration.

- b. *Combination of areas across major poverty groups.* The convergence areas should cover a significant number of smallholder farmers/agricultural workers including actual and potential ARBs, small fisherfolk, IPs, upland dwellers, and rural women.
- c. *Involvement of local government leaders of LGUs/LGU alliances.* The convergence area should have LGUs/LGU alliances whose Local Chief Executives (LCEs) and *Sanggunian* and are willing to support the Convergence Initiative.
- d. *Presence of relevant stakeholders/CSOs.* The convergence areas should have active CSOs that are willing to support the Convergence Initiative and be a conduit of interventions in the convergence area. Presence of private/business and academic/research institutions that are willing to partner within the convergence areas should be an advantage.

SECTION 7. Implementing Mechanisms and Organizational Structure

In order to effectively implement the NCI-SRD strategy, multi-agency TWGs shall be created at the national, regional, and local levels. PCI and/or MCI/CCI TWGs shall be created where there is/are convergence area/s. These TWGs shall be formalized through issuance of relevant Special Orders (SOs) or similar orders signed and approved by principals in the respective levels.

7.1 National Level

7.1.1 National Steering Committee (NSC)

The NSC shall act as the policy-making body of the NCI-SRD. It shall have the following functions:

1. Provide overall policy directions for the implementation of programs/activities/ projects (PAPs) under the NCI-SRD;
2. Review the fulfillment of commitments of the respective agencies relative to the implementation of the NCI-SRD;
3. Appoint or designate the National Focal Person (NFP) with a rank of Assistant Secretary, a Deputy National Focal Person (DNFP) with a rank of Director IV as the permanent alternate representative of the NFP, and a Head National Secretariat. The NFP, DNFP, and Head

National Secretariat shall come from the DA as the lead agency, for efficiency purposes;

4. Approve the implementation and coordination structure of the NCI-SRD, including the membership to the NTWG and the four (4) CWGs through the issuance of a Special Order (SO);
5. Approve/ratify policy instruments and PAPs pertaining to the operation of the NCI-SRD; and
6. Allocate and approve resources to carry out the PAPs of the NCI-SRD, including third party impact assessment of the convergence areas.

The NSC shall be composed of the following or their duly designated permanent alternates with a rank of an Undersecretary, whose acts shall be considered as the acts of their principals:

- Lead Convenor : DA Secretary
- Co-Convenors : DAR Secretary
DENR Secretary
DILG Secretary
- Secretariat : NFP

The NSC shall meet on a quarterly basis and hold special meetings, as deemed necessary. Meetings shall be conducted on rotation basis among the NCI-SRD agencies. In the absence of the Lead Convenor and/or Co-Convenors of the host agency, the present principal members shall decide among themselves who shall be the Chairperson of the meeting.

7.1.2 National Focal Person (NFP) and Deputy National Focal Person (DNFP)

The NFP and DNFP (as the designated permanent alternate representative of the NFP) shall spearhead the NTWG and oversee and supervise the NCI-SRD operations. They shall act as the Chairperson of the NTWG and shall convene the members of the NTWG to discuss updates/status of NCI-SRD PAPs before the conduct of the NSC meetings. The NFP and DNFP shall directly report to the NSC. The NFP shall directly supervise the National Secretariat and shall recommend to the Lead Convenor the designation of a Head National Secretariat and designate members of the National Secretariat as coordinators of the four (4) CWGs.

7.1.3 National Technical Working Group (NTWG)

The NTWG shall serve as the advisory and recommendatory body of the NSC on matters related to the implementation of the NCI-SRD. The NTWG shall have the following functions:

1. Conduct final technical review and endorse all NCI-SRD relevant documents for the approval of the NSC;
2. Recommend to the NSC relevant policies and guidelines, PAPs and their corresponding budget relative to the implementation of the NCI-SRD;
3. Mobilize concerned personnel to actively participate in various NCI-SRD PAPs;
4. Facilitate the formation of NCI-SRD committees/sub-working groups as the need arises, together with other relevant stakeholders;
5. Monitor, evaluate and report on the progress of implementation of NCI-SRD PAPs;
6. Consult with other concerned national government agencies (NGAs), stakeholders, and partner agencies on policies and PAPs related to sustainable rural development; and
7. Perform other functions as the NSC may direct.

The NTWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Chairperson	:	NFP or DNFP
Core Members	:	Chairperson, PA CWG Chairperson, AECBD CWG Chairperson, CD CWG Chairperson, KM CWG
Secretariat	:	National Secretariat

The NTWG shall meet on a quarterly basis prior to the meetings of the NSC and hold special meetings, as deemed necessary. Meetings shall be done on rotation basis among the NCI-SRD agencies. In the absence of the NFP or the DNFP, the present principal members shall decide among themselves who shall be the Chairperson of the meeting.

7.1.4 *National Secretariat*

The National Secretariat shall serve as the main coordinating body of the NCI-SRD. It shall provide technical and administrative support to the NTWG and NSC. It shall report directly to the NFP as Chairperson of the NTWG. The National Secretariat members shall come from the national offices of the DA, DAR, DENR, and DILG. The National Secretariat members shall be assigned and its office shall be established at the DA. National Secretariat satellite offices shall be established at the DAR, DENR and DILG, composed of staff from the office of the duly designated permanent alternate Undersecretaries of the NSC.

The National Secretariat shall have the following functions:

1. Coordinate and facilitate the conduct of the NSC and NTWG meetings, workshops, writeshops, seminars, fora and consultations;
2. Document, prepare, and disseminate the minutes/proceedings/reports of the NSC and NTWG meetings and activities;
3. Coordinate and facilitate the appropriate actions taken on agreements reached during the NSC and NTWG meetings and activities;
4. Submit monitoring/progress reports to the NSC, NTWG, and other oversight bodies;
5. Provide administrative support to the NSC and NTWG;
6. Coordinate and facilitate the activities conducted by the four (4) CWGs to ensure that the timelines for the activities are strictly followed;
7. Coordinate with the RCI TWGs and its Secretariat on the status of PAPs in relation to the NCI-SRD;
8. Prepare and consolidate operational budget of the NSC, NTWG, CWGs, and the NCI-SRD Secretariat; and
9. Perform other functions as the NSC and NTWG may direct.

7.1.5 *Component Working Groups (CWGs)*

1. The planning, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of the NCI-SRD shall be done through the four (4) CWGs. These four (4) CWGs are: Policy and Advocacy (PA); Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (AFF)-Enterprise Cluster and Business Development (AFFECBD), Capacity

Development (CD) and Knowledge Management (KM). They shall serve as the horizontal or cross-cutting components on issues related to all ecosystems using the ridge-to-reef approach.

2. Each CWG shall have a Chairperson who shall serve on rotation basis among the DA-DAR-DENR-DILG for a term of three (3) years. The Chairperson shall be designated by the respective Secretaries. The CWG Secretariat shall be designated by the Chairperson and shall come from the office they represent.
3. Membership of the CWGs shall include offices from the DA, DAR, DENR, and DILG, including graduates of the NCI-SRD Master in Public Management major in Rural Development (MPM-RD) Scholarship Program graduates whose work and responsibilities are related to the four (4) components. CWG members shall be designated by the respective Secretaries. Other NGAs and relevant stakeholders which may contribute to the initiatives of the respective CWGs shall be invited, as deemed necessary.
4. The following are the functions and composition of each CWG:
 - a. PA CWG – shall be responsible for the review and audit of conflicting and overlapping policies that hamper the implementation of PAPs of the NCI-SRD agencies across all ecosystems. It shall recommend and draft relevant policy instruments that shall harmonize or improve existing policies. It shall also identify issues that require legislation and coordinate with the appropriate offices, agencies, and stakeholder groups involved in advocating for the respective legislation.

The PA CWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Core Members : DA

1. Director, Planning and Monitoring Service (PMS)
2. Director, Policy Research Service (PRS)
3. Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)
4. Director, Bureau of Soils and Water

Management (BSWM)

5. Executive Director, Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fishery (PCAF)

DAR

6. Director, Policy and Research Service (PRS)
7. Director, Bureau of Agrarian Legal Assistance (BALA)

DENR

8. Director, Policy and Planning Service (PPS)
9. Director, Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB)
10. Director, Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB)
11. Director, Forest Management Bureau (FMB)
12. Director, Land Management Bureau (LMB)

DILG

13. Director, Bureau of Local Government Development (BLGD)

Secretariat : Designated by the PA CWG Chairperson
 Coordinator : National Secretariat member

- b. AFFECBD CWG – shall be responsible for the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of AFF-enterprise cluster and business within the convergence areas, which shall cover all ecosystems.

The AFFECBD CWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Core Members : DA

1. Director, Agribusiness Marketing and Assistance Service (AMAS)
2. Director, Field Operations Service (FOS)
3. Director, Project Development Service (PDS)
4. Director, Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)

- 5. Director, BFAR
DAR
- 6. Director, Project Management Service (PMS)
- 7. Director, Bureau of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development (BARBD)
DENR
- 8. Director, Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service (FASPS)
- 9. Director, BMB
- 10. Director, ERDB
- 11. Director, FMB
- 12. Director, LMB
DILG
- 13. Director, BLGD

Secretariat : Designated by the AFFECBD CWG Chairperson
 Coordinator : National Secretariat member

c. CD CWG – shall be responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of the NCI-SRD national capacity development plan, which shall take into consideration all ecosystems. It shall organize and manage all NCI-SRD learning and development (L&D) activities, including regular orientation and assessment activities.

The CD CWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

- Core Members : *DA*
- 1. Director, BAR
 - 2. Director, Agriculture Training Institute (ATI)
DAR
 - 3. Director, BARBD
 - 4. Director, Agrarian Reform Capacity Development Service (ARCDS)
DENR
 - 5. Director, FASPS
 - 6. Director, Human Resource

Development Service (HRDS)

7. Director, BMB
8. Director, ERDB
9. Director, FMB
10. Director, LMB

DILG

11. Director, BLGD
12. Executive Director, Local Government Academy (LGA)

Secretariat : Designated by the CD CWG Chairperson
 Coordinator : National Secretariat member

- d. KM CWG – shall be responsible for the development and management of an information system for the NCI-SRD. The three (3) areas of concern of the KM are the following: ICT, RBME and IECM Materials.

The KM CWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Core Members : *DA*

1. Division Chief, Agriculture and Fisheries Information Division (AFID)
2. Director, FOS
3. Director, Information and Communication Technology Service (ICTS)
4. Director, PMS
5. Director, BFAR
6. Director, ATI
7. Administrator, National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI)

DAR

8. Director, Management Information Systems Service (MISS)
9. Director, Public Assistance and Media Relations Service (PAMRS)

DENR

10. Director, Knowledge and Information Systems Service (KISS)

11. Director, PPS
12. Director, Strategic Communication and Information Service (SCIS)
13. Director, BMB
14. Director, ERDB
15. Director, FMB
16. Director, LMB
- DILG
17. Executive Director, LGA
18. Director, BLGD

Secretariat : Designated by the KM CWG Chairperson
 Coordinator : National Secretariat member

7.1.6 *Other Partner Agencies and Institutions*

The NTWG and CWGs shall coordinate with other partner agencies and institutions to ensure complementation and alignment of NCI-SRD interventions with that of other related agencies, offices, and institutions. They shall likewise work with NGOs, coalition groups, farmer and fisherfolk associations and groups, SUCs, and private sector/business groups.

7.2 Regional, Provincial, and Municipal/City Levels

7.2.1 *Regional Convergence Initiative TWG (RCI TWG)*

The RCI TWG shall act as the regional arm of the NTWG. It shall have the following functions:

1. Provide technical assistance in the development of the CADPs proposed by the LGUs;
2. Conduct technical review and validation of the CADPs proposed by the LGUs and endorse CADPs to the NTWG;
3. Supervise the implementation of the PAPs under the approved CADP and the NCI-SRD, as may be applicable;
4. Monitor and evaluate the progress and result of implementation of the CADPs and other PAPs of the NCI-SRD within the region;
5. Facilitate the resolution of issues and concerns relating to the NCI-SRD operations in the region;
6. Elevate issues on conflicting and overlapping policies relating to the NCI-SRD to the NTWG;

7. Prepare project proposals to support proposed funding of NCI-SRD-related PAPs; and
8. Allocate and approved resources to fund for the NCI-SRD PAPs.

The RCI TWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Chairperson	:	Regional Executive Director, DA RFO
Core Members	:	Regional Director, DAR Regional Executive Director, DENR Regional Director, DILG Designated Regional Focal Person

The DA RFO Regional Executive Director shall designate the Regional Focal Person, who shall also come from the DA RFO. The membership of the RCI TWG shall be expanded to include graduates of the NCI-SRD MPM-RD Scholarship Program and representatives from the provincial LGUs and other relevant stakeholders, as deemed necessary.

7.2.2 RCI TWG Secretariat

The RCI TWG Secretariat shall act as the regional arm of the National Secretariat. It shall have the following functions:

1. Coordinate and facilitate the conduct of the RCI TWG meetings, workshops, writeshops, seminars, fora and consultations;
2. Document, prepare, and disseminate the highlights the minutes/proceedings/reports of the RCI TWG meetings and activities;
3. Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of appropriate actions taken on agreements reached during the RCI TWG meetings and activities;
4. Directly liaise with the National Secretariat on the status of PAPs in relation to the NCI-SRD;
5. Submit and report accomplishment, monitoring/progress reports of the convergence areas and NCI-SRD-related PAPs to the National Secretariat;
6. Prepare annual workplan and budget of the RCI TWG;
7. Provide administrative support to the RCI TWG;
8. Attend and participate in the NCI-SRD activities at the national, regional, and local levels; and

9. Perform other functions as the RCI TWG may direct.

The RCI TWG Secretariat shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Head Secretariat : Designated Regional Focal Person
 Core Members : DA, Field Operations Division (FOD)/
 Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division
 (PMED)/ Regional Agriculture and Fisheries
 Information Section (RAFIS)/Agribusiness
 and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD)
 DAR, Regional Program Beneficiaries
 Development Division (RPBDD)/ Field
 Operations Division (FOD)/Agrarian Reform
 Beneficiaries Development Sustainability and
 Program Division (ARBDSPD)
 DENR, Office of the Assistant Regional
 Director for Technical Services/Planning and
 Management Division (PMD)

 DILG, Local Capacity Development Division
 (LCDD)/ Local Government Monitoring and
 Evaluation Division (LGMED)/Municipal/ City
 Local Government Operations Officer
 (M/CLGOOs)

7.2.3 Provincial Convergence Initiative (PCI) TWG

The PCI TWG shall be created when a convergence area covering at least two (2) municipalities within one (1) province is proposed by the PLGU. It shall have the following functions:

1. Propose and/or endorse convergence area/s to the RCI TWG based on the selection criteria stipulated in *Section 6*;
2. Develop, formulate, write, package, and finalize the CADP of the approved convergence area/s, in collaboration with the MCI/CCI TWG and RCI TWG;
3. Implement PAPs under the approved CADP and the NCI-SRD within the province, in collaboration with the RCI TWG;
4. Monitor and evaluate the progress and result of implementation of the CADPs and other PAPs of the NCI-SRD within the province; and

7. Update the CADP from time to time, as may be necessary.

The PCI TWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Chairperson	:	Provincial Governor
Core Members	:	DA, Agriculture Provincial Coordinating Officer (APCO) DAR, Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer (PARPO) DENR, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) DILG, Provincial Director LGU, Provincial Agriculturist (PA) LGU, Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator (PPDC) LGU, Provincial Environment Management Officer (PEMO) LGU, Municipal Agriculture Officer (MAO)

The Provincial Governor shall designate a Secretariat of the PCI TWG. In case there is an existing LGU alliance in the area, the head of the LGU alliance shall be a member of the PCI TWG. The Provincial Governor shall also designate other members of the PCI TWG from other relevant government agencies as well as NGOs, CSOs, and private sector, as may be necessary.

7.2.4 Municipal Convergence Initiative/City Convergence Initiative (MCI/CCI) TWG

The MCI/CCI TWG shall be created when a convergence area within a municipality/city is proposed by the M/CLGU. It shall have the following functions:

1. Propose and/or endorse convergence area/s to the RCI TWG based on the selection criteria stipulated in *Section 6*;
2. Develop the CADP of the approved convergence area/s, in collaboration with the RCI TWG;
3. Implement PAPs under the approved CADP and the NCI-SRD within the municipality/city, in collaboration with the RCI TWG;

4. Monitor, evaluate the progress and result of implementation of the CADPs and other PAPs of the NCI-SRD within the municipality/city;
5. Update the CADP from time to time as may be necessary.

The MCI/CCI TWG shall be composed of the following or their designated permanent alternate representative/s:

Chairperson	:	Municipal/City Mayor
Core Members	:	DA, Designated DA RFO representative/APCO DAR, Designated PARPO/MARPO representative DENR, Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) DILG, Municipal DILG Officer/ Municipal/City Local Government Operations Officer (M/CLGOO) LGU, Municipal Agriculturist (MA)/ Municipal Agricultural Officer (MAO) LGU, Municipal/City Planning and Development Coordinator (M/CPDC) LGU, Municipal/City Environment and Natural Resources Officer (M/CENRO), as may be applicable LGU, Provincial Agriculturist (PA)

The Municipal/City Mayor shall designate a Secretariat of the MCI/CCI TWG. They shall also designate other members of the MCI/CCI TWG from other relevant government agencies as well as NGOs, CSOs, and private sector, as may be necessary.

SECTION 8. Funding

The DA, DAR, DENR, and DILG shall allot a portion of their annual budget, mainstreamed or tagged, to support the NCI-SRD operations, the TWGs and their Secretariats at the national, regional, and local levels. Other sources of funds such as grants, donations, and other forms of assistance from donor agencies, other government agencies, and local and international business community/ private sectors, shall be tapped to support the PAPs of the Convergence Initiative. Cost-sharing and/or counter-parting scheme among NGAs, LGUs, NGOs, private sector, and other institutions shall be encouraged to support the Convergence Initiative.

SECTION 9. Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME)

A RBME system based on indicators of performance aligned with the PDP Results Matrix shall be developed, implemented and managed. A regular reporting system shall be installed in an open and transparent manner. The RBME report shall also contain gaps and issues, learnings on convergence as an approach to sustainable rural development, and proposed policy recommendations.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. This revised JAO supersedes DA-DAR-DENR-DILG JAO No. 01 Series of 2015 and revokes all other issuances inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 11. Effectivity. This revised JAO takes effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in one (1) newspaper of general circulation and upon registration with the Office of National Administrative Register (ONAR).

William D. Dar
WILLIAM D. DAR
Acting Secretary

Department of Agriculture (DA)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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John R. Castriciones
JOHN R. CASTRICIONES
Secretary

Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)

Department of Agrarian Reform
Office of the Secretary

OTH-19-09647



Roy A. Cimatu
ROY A. CIMATU

Secretary

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Eduardo M. Año
EDUARDO M. AÑO

Secretary

Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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