

Coalition for Agriculture Modernization in the Philippines (CAMP)

Five Complementary Strategies in the Rice New Road Map

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Why Grow Rice?

- **Cheapest source of energy and protein (albeit inferior quality); also for convenience**
- **No crop thrives better in waterlogged low lying areas during wet season (except gabi)**
- **Culture and tradition**



Lifting of Rice Imports QRs

- **A profound game changer**
- **Good for rice consumers**
- **Domestic rice must compete with cheap imported rice to survive**
- **Need a new road map**



Five Complementary Strategies in New Rice Road Map

- 1. Culture intensification in irrigated areas**
- 2. Diversion of rainfed lowland and upland areas to other high value crops**
- 3. Reform of NFA**
- 4. Temporary decoupled payments to rice farmers (10-year transition)**
- 5. Promotion of brown rice, corn grits and root crops**



Rice Intensification in Irrigated Areas

- **1.71 million hectares (out of 3 million irrigable); continue investments**
- **Certified inbreds and hybrids**
- **Proper fertilization (about 150 kg. nutrients/ha) and pest management**
- **Mechanization culture and post harvest**
- **Small irrigation units embedded in NIS/CIS to raise cropping intensity from 137% to 300%**



Diversion of Rainfed Lowland and Upland Areas to Other High Value Crops

- **Markets and ecology but markets first**
- **Provision for small irrigation units for multiple cropping**
- **Conventional requirements seeds, fertilizers, IPM, credit, mechanization, extension**



Reform of NFA

- **Leave function of supply and affordability to market**
- **Leave function of raising farmers productivity and income to DA and other institutions**
- **Focus on ensuring grain reserve (buffer stock) for emergency**
- **Rice distribution during calamities**



Temporary Decoupled Payments to Rice Farmers

- **Previous government procurement and input subsidies programs ineffective and prone to corruption**
- **Farmers need support during transition**
- **Unfair to impose entire burden of market liberalization on rice farmers alone**
- **Shift to decoupled direct payments to registered farmers based on areas planted (land title/tax declaration) for ten years**
- **Payments from proceeds of 35% tariff
₱27 billion by 2022**



Promotion of Brown Rice, Corn Grits and Root Crops as Substitutes

- **Brown rice** 10% higher recovery; more healthy
- **Corn grits** cheaper, also more healthy
- **Cassava staple** in some ARRM areas



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