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CUA VOWS TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM

Quirino governor and Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines president Dax Cua gave assurances that he would hold a dialogue with his organization's constituent units to ensure that a program establishing vegetable gardens in communities would be sustained.

"Makakaasa ang ating Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. na gaya ng sa ibang adhikain ng pambansang pamahalaan ay makikipagtulungan kaming mga local government unit para magtagumpay ang programang ito. Kakausapin natin ang constituent units ng ULAP para masiguro ang 100 percent compliance at tuloy-tuloy na maimplementa ito," Cua said.

The Department of Agriculture and Department of Interior and Local Government on Wednesday launched the "Hapag Kay PBBM," or the "Halina't Magtanim ng Prutas at Gulay sa Barangay/Kadiwa ay Yaman/Plants for Bountiful Barangays Movement."

The program aims to address food security by establishing community gardens in all barangays in the country.

The Hapag Kay PBBM merges existing programs by the two agencies: the DA's Green Revolution 2.0 Plants for Bountiful Barangays Movement, and the DILG's Halina At Magtanim ng Prutas at Gulay movement.

The launch was also marked by a simultaneous nationwide planting of seeds and seedlings, as well as a training on urban agriculture.

Cua highlighted the need to employ creative solutions at the micro and community level even as the government tries to revitalize the country's agriculture and boost overall production.

"Magandang simulain ang Hapag Kay PBBM para magkaroon ng madaliang access ang mga pamilya sa komunidad sa mga gulay at iba pang masustansiyang pagkain," said the governor.

"I am confident that we can expect more innovative solutions from the government to help our people cope with the rising cost of food," he also said.



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Cua added that community gardens would also help instill in the youth a better appreciation of food production, as well as cultivate better relations through communal activities.

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