

Millennial farmers, gardeners amid pandemic in online 'Stories for a Better Normal' series

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CALOOCAN CITY, Aug. 7 (PIA) -- The 12th episode of "Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Pathways," on Thursday featured "Millennial Farmers and Gardeners" and their stories and experiences in venturing into agribusiness and the importance of sustainable farming amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

House Deputy Speaker and Antique Representative Loren Legarda discussed trends and best practices with millennial farmers and young farm managers and "agripreneurs", including: Ms. Karmila Rose Dimamay, farm owner of Milay's Garden in Tibiao, Antique and incumbent Board Member of the Province; Mr. Enzo Pinga, founder of Earthbeat farms in San Pablo City, Laguna; Mr. Raphael Dacones, chief farming officer of Teraoka Family Farm in Pangasinan; and Ms. Stephanie Mendiola, founder of Indie Farms in Silang, Cavite. Meanwhile, Atty Paula Aberasturi of Down to Earth PH joined as reactor.

The online episode streamed via Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/conglorenlegarda and www.facebook.com/CCCPhI/.

Looking at young millennials as the future of Philippine agriculture, the series highlighted the need for young blood in agriculture.

The show also underscored the youth as having that defining attributes when it comes to utilizing modern agriculture as they are well connected through electronic devices that can help modernize farming and fishing activities.

In previous episodes, the online series tackled topics on food gardening, saving seeds, permaculture, good nutrition and diet, and sustainable urban mobility in order to encourage citizens to be sustainable and self-sufficient. This upcoming episode will focus on encouraging the younger generation to venture into sustainable farming and agribusiness as viable career options.

As an online discussion to promote health, environmental consciousness, and climate-adaptive practices, Stories for a Better Normal aims to change the mindset of individuals, families, and communities by demonstrating ways in which a “better normal” can be realized within our communities.

This online discussion is organized in partnership between the Office of Deputy Speaker Legarda and the Climate Change Commission, with support from the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities, The Climate Reality Project-Philippines and Mother Earth Foundation. (PIA NCR)

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