

# Bohol project gets agri infra

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THE [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) has put up rice mills, a virgin coconut oil facility and a multicommodity solar dryer as part of a green initiative to protect the watershed around Wahig Inabanga River Basin in Bohol.

Water Inabanga is the largest and most important river in Region 7 (Bohol, Cebu, Negros Oriental and Siquijor). Recognized as a watershed reservation under Proclamation 468, Inabanga has a huge potential source of water for agricultural, commercial, industrial and household uses.

[The National Irrigation Administration](#) has constructed a dam to provide irrigation to about 5,000 hectares of agricultural land in four valley towns here - [Sierra Bullones](#), Pilar, Dagohoy and [San Miguel](#). The dam also supplies the domestic water needs of 637,097 households.

Currently, the rice mills in the area are managed by the people's organization of DAFA and the [Matinao Vegetable Growers Association](#).

Meanwhile, a separate all-weather dryer facility has been put up for the Kauswagan United Farmers for Forest and Agro-Forest Resources Development and the multicommodity solar tunnel dryer for Confraternity of Mayana Small Farmers.

Since these facilities have been constructed, around 2,700 beneficiaries have enjoyed their production of nearly 450,000 kilos of palay (unmilled rice), corn, cassava and assorted fish.

Dubbed as "Integrated Natural Resource and Environmental Management Program" (Inremp), this DENR's environmental initiative has also put up a virgin coconut oil facility to enhance the livelihood source of the communities. For the fishing residents, a fish pen coral in the area has been constructed.

Inremp has allocated P17.7 million for these livelihood projects totaling 66 units. These have a total of 52 people's organization beneficiaries.

Furthermore, a concrete water reservoir and a water system transformer have been constructed for the beneficiaries' water supply.

While the upland communities are helping the government in natural resource management (NRM) as they protect the forests and mountains, Inremp provided them with the farm-to-market road (FMR), enabling farmers and growers transport their agricultural goods to the market from the mountains.

Inremp is funded by the [Asian Development Bank](#) with a counterpart fund from the Philippine government.

As the project nears completion, a total of 4,316.67 hectares of forestland has been properly put under NRM.

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