



**FATIMA MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE**  
**CDA REG. NO. 9520-08000603**  
**Poblacion, Calubian, Leyte**

14 August 2023

**DR. EDGARDO E. TULIN**

President/Director

Visayas State University/PhilRootcrops

Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Attention: **Dr. Beatriz S. Belonias**  
VP For Instruction, VSU

Dear **Dr. Tulin**:

Greetings!

First, we would like to thank you and the Visayas State University - PhilRootcrops for the continued technical support and partnership extended for the agribusiness enterprise of our cooperative.

The strong partnership between VSU - PhilRootcrops and Fatima Multi-purpose Cooperative sped up the implementation of development initiatives such as the establishment of a cassava industry in the region which significantly contributed to ensuring food security as well as providing sustainable rootcrop-based livelihood opportunities.

With our cooperative's strong desire to help and uplift the economic condition of more vulnerable rural folks most especially the farmers, our management has been in continuing pursuit to expand our ventures on cassava and even on other rootcrops.

Right now, FMPC is on a mission to embark on another endeavor which is to put up a starch factory with a 500 metric ton per day capacity. To reach this goal, FMPC needs to increase the hectareage of cassava production areas by providing them with a package of services, including financing, input supplies, and mechanization.

Before everything, however, we would like to be equipped with more technical knowledge related to the cassava starch venture. In this regard, our cooperative proposed a five-day training and study visit program in Thailand, the world's leading exporter of cassava starch, on September 2-9, 2023. This activity is designed to fill up the knowledge gap needed by the operations in the cassava starch value chain to do so profitably and sustainably. We are to be assisted by the Asian Institute of Technology and Agriterria for the activity.

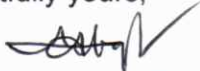
In relation to the above, we would like to be joined by representatives from PhilRootcrops, a national center mandated to conduct R&D activities for roots and tubers. The current Assistant Director of PhilRootcrops, **Prof. Marlon Tambis** has been our continuing consultant for a long time, especially when it comes to agricultural economics-related matters. In fact, Prof. Tambis was the one who conducted the feasibility and market study for the starch factory establishment. Thus, his presence during the proposed activity is deemed necessary.

Along with this, we would like to respectfully ask your good university to collaborate with us through funding the travel expenses of Prof. Tambis for the said activity. The expenses of the other participants will be shouldered by our cooperative. Attached is the proposal of the activity reflecting the needed tuition fee and other expenses for your reference.

We deeply appreciate your full and constant support of Fatima-MPC. Should you have any questions, you may reach us at [fatimampc\\_1996@yahoo.com](mailto:fatimampc_1996@yahoo.com).

Thank you very much. Mabuhay VSU!

Respectfully yours,



**MA. TERESA A. GENISTON**  
General Manager, FMPC