

DSWD provides livelihood settlement grants for former rebels

As one of the lead agencies in the implementation of the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program or E-CLIP under Executive Order No.70, series of 2018 (EO 70), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) recently provided Livelihood Settlement Grants (LSG) to 19 former rebels (FRs), in the Province of Antique, who have returned to the folds of the law in 2020.

The grants amounting to P380,000.00 at P20,000 each, will enable the former rebels to engage in livelihood enterprises, such as livestock production, merchandising/retail/wholesale and fishing. The FRs submitted their project proposals to the Department which were assessed and provided with corresponding budget allocation.

The Department, through its field offices implements programs and services for former rebels which include the provision of LSG, through the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP).

EO 70 was signed by President Rodrigo Duterte in December 2018 institutionalizing a whole-of-nation approach in addressing the local communist armed conflict.

Integral to EO 70 is E-CLIP which is designed to encourage those within the armed groups to leave the armed struggle and lead normal lives by accessing them to government programs and services to enable them to start anew.

To achieve its goal of permanent and peaceful closure of all armed conflicts with non-state armed groups, Regional Task Forces on Ending Local Communists Armed Conflict (RTF-ELCACs) comprising different government agencies were created to carry

out their specific mandates.

DSWD's membership to the different RTF-ELCAC Clusters is geared towards the provision of social protection services in achieving the objectives of E0 70 especially to its target FR beneficiaries.

Together with the members of the RTF-LCACs, the Department formulates plans and executes programs that will bring inclusive and sustainable peace and address the root causes of insurgencies and armed conflicts in identified vulnerable communities. It seeks to win the hearts and minds of the people by providing them access to government programs and services. ###