



Republic of the Philippines
BATANGAS CITY

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Tel. No. 722-0304

ORDINANCE NO. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

AUTHOR : **SP MEMBER ISIDRA "CHED" M. ATIENZA**
Committee on Agriculture and Cooperatives

CO-AUTHOR : **ALL SP MEMBERS**

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior and Local Government and the Department of Agriculture have enjoined all local government units (LGUs) to implement Republic Act 10068 otherwise known as "An Act Providing for the Development and Promotion of Organic Agriculture in the Philippines and other Purposes" or simply, Organic Agriculture Act of 2010;

WHEREAS, these above-mentioned government agencies jointly issued Revised Memorandum Circular No. 1 dated May 31, 2018, which sets forth the roles and responsibilities of LGUs in the development, promotion, and implementation of the National Organic Agriculture Program;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Batangas for its part fully subscribes to the views that shifting back to the traditional ways of raising crops will truly lead to the promotion of ecologically sound, socially acceptable, and technically safe and feasible production of food and various farm products in the grassroots;

WHEREAS, the current city administration believes that the practice of organic farming will refrain local farmers from using harmful chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and, in turn, restore the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity, preserve, and protect the environment, and ensure the health and wellness of both the farmers and the consuming public;

WHEREAS, under RA 10068 and Section 16 of the general welfare clause of RA 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, this Ordinance explicitly provides the creation of an Organic Agriculture Management Council, setting up of agriculture zones and organic centers, establishment of organic gene/seed bank, research and development, support services and financial assistance for organic farmers and other agriculture-related programs of the City Government of Batangas;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained, as it hereby ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Batangas in session assembled, that:

ARTICLE 1 – INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as the "**Organic Agriculture Ordinance of Batangas City.**"

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It is hereby declared the policy of the City Government of Batangas to promote, propagate, develop further, and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the City that will cumulatively promote and enhance the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity, reduce pollution of and damage to the environment, save natural

HON. WILSON G. CHAVEZ

HON. ARMANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OLIVER Z. MACAVANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MAGARANG

HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DRONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBISA, JR.

HON. ISIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLERTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

resources, protect the health of farmers, consumers, and the general public and promote community-based organic agriculture systems which include, among others, farm produce which in the long run will protect life and advance the rights of all citizens to sufficient nutritional and healthy food, safe and sustainable livelihood and social equity in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Towards this end, the local government shall promote organic agriculture as a main agricultural practice in Batangas City and shall influence large-scale and monoculture agro-industrial industries to integrate organic agriculture practices into their systems.

The City Government of Batangas shall continue to implement, promote, and develop its existing programs and may expand to other initiatives that may be deemed necessary for the fulfilment of this Ordinance, upon availability of funds and subject to compliance to future national statutes.

SECTION 3. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. – To guide the implementation of this Ordinance, the practice of organic agriculture shall adhere to the following principles:

- a. The promotion, enhancement, conservation, and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity shall prevail over any other activity in the agriculture sector; in the case of monoculture (e.g. sugarcane agriculture), agriculture biodiversity should be encouraged through intercropping, crop rotation, or similar practices;
- b. The empowerment of small and marginalized farmers especially in terms of information on different alternative natural agricultural technologies, product value and fair market trade, and access/linkages in the countryside is a priority, including incentives as herein defined;
- c. Mitigating the effects of climate change is an essential component that should be integrated into all policies and programs in all sectors;
- d. While unifying the initiatives and efforts of all government agencies and instrumentalities in agriculture, efforts should be geared towards the upliftment of the economic conditions of all agricultural sectors;
- e. Organic agriculture is a contributor to the City's economy and the attainment of food security, ecological sustainability, and the well-being of her people.
- f. Organic agriculture does not co-exist with genetically modified crops, chemically produced crops, and related organisms, both living and non-living;
- g. All existing policies on agriculture of all Barangays should adopt and integrate all aspects of Organic Agriculture;

HON. BELSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. RYLANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OLYVER T. MACAPANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACABAG

HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. AUYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBADA, JR.

HON. DORA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

- h. The integrity of organic products through the approved organic certification process and organic production, handling, and processing standards should be ensured; and
- i. Integration of organic agriculture in the basic education agriculture subjects and tertiary agriculture courses in public and private schools.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **Agriculture** – shall include all fields, such as but not limited to aquaculture, animal husbandry, agronomy, agroforestry, and horticulture;
- b. **Biodiversity** – the variability among living organisms from all sources, including, among others, terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems;
- c. **Biopesticides** – are naturally occurring substances and microorganism that controls pests;
- d. **Buffer Zones** – a defined area of the boundary of an organic farm that has land use controls and allows only activities compatible with the protection of the organic farm. It serves as a barrier that surrounds or separates an organic farm from other traditional farms where plants are not designated as organic;
- e. **Consumer groups** – organized consumer groups patronizing and advocating organic products;
- f. **Ex-situ** – the study, maintenance, or conservation of an organism away from its natural surroundings;
- g. **Food Security** – the ability of the individual, household, and community to produce and/or access/acquire appropriate, abundant, nutritious, and safe food regularly using socially acceptable means;
- h. **Gene Seed Bank** – a collection of seeds from potentially useful wild plants, which may be used in the future for breeding new varieties;
- i. **Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)** – refers to organisms that possess a novel combination of genetic materials obtained through the use of modern biotechnology;

HON. NELSON LEHAVEZ

HON. AMANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OLIVER MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO
HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBOA, JR.

HON. ISIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE WENASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

- j. **Organic** – refers to the particular farming and processing system, described in the standards and not in the classical chemical sense. The term ‘organic’ is synonymous in another language with ‘biological’ or ‘ecological’. It is also a labeling term that denotes products considered based on the Philippine National Standards for Organic Agriculture (Organic Agriculture Act of 2010);
- k. **Organic Agriculture** – includes all agricultural system that promotes the ecologically sound, socially acceptable, economically viable, and technically feasible production of food and fibers. Organic agriculture dramatically reduces external inputs by refraining from the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and pharmaceuticals. It also covers areas such as but not limited to soil fertility management, varietal breeding and selection under chemical and pesticide-free conditions, the use of biotechnology and other cultural practices that are consistent with the principles and policies of this Act, and enhance productivity without compromising the soil and water, and harming farmers, consumers and the environment as defined by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM): Provided, That the biotechnology herein referred to shall not include genetically modified organisms or GMOs (Organic Agriculture Act of 2010);
- l. **Organic Farm Villages** – villages composed of smallholder farmers in a community organized into a smallholder group and certified or in the process of certification by a third-party organic certification body; and
- m. **Small and Marginalized Farmers** – refers to natural persons dependent on small-scale subsistence farming as their primary source of income and whose sale, barter, or exchange of agricultural products do not exceed a gross value of One Hundred Eighty Thousand Pesos (PHP 180,000.00) per annum based on 1992 constant prizes. An inter-agency committee composed of the Department of Agrarian Reform, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Finance, and the National Economic and Development Authority and headed by the Department of Agriculture may conduct periodic reviews and adjustments of the income level to take into account the effects of changes in inflation, devaluation and consumer price index (Republic Act No. 7607 or An Act Providing a Magna Carta of Small Farmers).

ARTICLE 2 – INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

SECTION 5. BATANGAS CITY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. -

- a. Functions – The Committee shall have the following functions:

HON. WELSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. RICHARD C. LAZARTE

HON. OLIVER MACKAYANG

HON. RESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANJUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA REEVE A. CAJIZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBORA, JR.

HON. ISIPRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

1. Formulate and develop a City Organic Agriculture Plan, in consultation with stakeholders, and oversee its implementation, monitoring, and evaluation;
2. Supervise agricultural practices in the entire City;
3. Monitor chemical inputs through tissue analysis and soil and water tests; monitor the use and/or sale and/or distribution of banned or prohibited chemical input; within Batangas City;
4. Identify and recommend organic farm villages as established in Sec. 9 of this Ordinance;
5. Adopt the existing national standards for the accreditation of organic agriculture practitioners which may take into account second or third-party certification systems and farmers' guarantee systems;
6. Recommend criteria for organic farms, organic farmers, organic agriculture standards and practices;
7. Develop incentive mechanisms for the organic agriculture sector, in collaboration with the Barangays which shall include but are not limited to subsidies especially with farming areas that do not exceed a three-hectare limit, and the necessary crop insurance and other support system of the agriculture sector;
8. Coordinate with the City Agriculture Office, third-party certifying bodies, different line agencies, and NGOs in terms of production, product development, skills enhancement, and marketing aspects consistent with the provision of the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010;
9. Design a comprehensive program for the success in the implementation of this ordinance through information, education, communication, and advocacy activities;
10. Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the realization of the policies as well as the principles enunciated under this Ordinance.

b. Composition – The **Technical Committee** shall be composed of the following:

HON. NELSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. RAMANDO C. CATARTE

HON. OLYVER Z. MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANJUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSIA MARNEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBDA, JR.

HON. ISIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS E. POTENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

1. The Mayor or his duly authorized representative who shall serve as Chairperson of the Council;
2. City Agriculturist and/or his duly authorized representative;
3. Liga ng mga Barangay President or his representative;
4. SP Committee Chairman on Agriculture;
5. The City Environment and Natural Resources Officer (City ENRO) or his representative;
6. City Agriculture and Fishery Council Chairman;
7. Three (3) authorized representatives from farmer groups engaged in organic agriculture for the past 3 years;
8. Three (3) authorized representatives from Non-Government Organization (NGO) groups engaged in organic agriculture for the past 3 years;
9. Representative from the Department of Education;
10. Representative from the Department of Agrarian Reform;
11. A representative from the City Environment and Natural Resources Office;
12. Representative from the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

c. Manner of Selection of Council Members and Requirements to be Submitted. – The members of the Council shall be appointed by the Mayor from among the applicants who have complied with the requirements and criteria outlined in this Ordinance.

The applicant organizations or individuals should have adequate background and be engaged in Organic Agriculture as practitioners for at least three (3) years and/or an existing third-party certified organic farmer and shall submit the following requirements:

1. For organizations
 - a. Duly accomplished application form
 - b. Proof of Registration
 - c. Certification from the appropriate agency that the farm is organic
 - d. List of Projects undertaken for the past three years
 - e. Board Resolution signifying intention to join the council
 - f. Endorsement from the Punong Barangay
2. For individuals
 - a. List of Projects undertaken for the past three years
 - b. Certification that the farm is organic
 - c. Endorsement from the Punong Barangay where the individual is based

HON. BESON J. CHAVEZ

HON. RAMONDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OLIVER T. MACAPANGAN

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANJUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALESSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. ANGELITO DOMDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBOA, JR.

HON. ISIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TORRENTINO

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

d. Secretariat – The City Agriculture Office shall serve as the Secretariat of the Council and as such shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Ensure that the policies, programs, and strategies provided for in this ordinance are properly implemented;
2. Coordinate with the various agencies composing the Council and other entities or associations engaged in activities covered in this ordinance;
3. Conduct necessary ocular inspections and evaluation of various sites and activities that have organic agricultural potential and recommend the same for development;
4. Monitor the implementation of the programs approved and adopted by the Council and render a quarterly report as required regularly;
5. Recommend organic agricultural development programs for adoption by the Council based on observations gathered from the evaluation of existing and probable organic agricultural sites and activities;
6. Evaluate the application for membership into the Council and submit the same to the Mayor under the provisions of the preceding paragraph;
7. Shall exercise such other related functions as may be assigned by the Council.

The Council hereby created may invite or tap representatives of concerned government agencies (DTI, DAR, DA, City Health Office, DOST, and others), organizations, and enterprises for technical assistance or coordination purposes from time to time, as may be appropriate or necessary.

e. Executive Committee – The City Mayor, in consultation with the city council shall create an executive committee composed of not less than five (5) members from among their ranks approximating an equal representation of the private and public sectors. Said committee may act, by majority vote of all its members, on such specific matters within the competence of the council, as may be delegated to it on a majority vote of the committee.

SECTION 6. PARTICIPATION OF ALL BARANGAYS. – The Barangays shall be encouraged to initiate its own short, medium, and long-term programs with specific budget allocation from its Internal Revenue Allotment on organic agriculture.

SECTION 7. COLLABORATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR. – The efforts of civil society organizations in promoting organic agriculture before the passage of this Ordinance are recognized. The City shall continue to encourage and support the participation of the private sector in the promotion, propagation, development, and implementation of organic agriculture, from farm production through marketing, trade, and consumption.

HON. NELSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. ARMANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OLIVER Z. MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. CARLOS EMMANUELA A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBICA, JR.

HON. SIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

ARTICLE 3 – PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES

SECTION 8. STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION. – The City, through the City Agriculture Office, shall promote the use of certified inputs and the certification of organic farms by certifying bodies.

SECTION 9. ORGANIC FARM VILLAGES. – For the effective implementation of this Ordinance, the City, in coordination with all the barangays, shall promote the establishment of organic farm villages which will serve as organic production centers, as well as demonstration farms and learning centers. These organic farm villages shall build on and strengthen existing pilot organic farm villages set up and managed by the City Agriculture Office.

SECTION 10. CONSERVATION OF INDIGENOUS FARM PRACTICES AND RESOURCES. – Measures shall be established by the farming communities to conserve and protect indigenous knowledge relating to organic agriculture, including those that relate aquaculture, animal husbandry, seed conservation and propagation, and the various ways in which on-farm and ex-situ mechanisms are established and sustained.

SECTION 11. ORGANIC GENE SEED BANK. – The City Government of Batangas with the participation of NGOs, international organizations and other appropriate agencies shall establish an organic seed/gene bank which will produce and supply organic, endemic, or indigenous seeds to farmers.

SECTION 12. PROMOTION OF URBAN/BACKYARD GARDENING. – The City, through the City Agriculture Office (CAO), shall encourage, promote, and support urban and backyard gardening using organic agriculture practices throughout the City.

SECTION 13. SUPPORT SERVICES TO SMALL HOLDER FARMERS. – There shall be support services provided to smallholder farmers which includes agrarian reform beneficiaries, who wish to engage in organic agriculture, from training, production, marketing, and branding, including financial management and accounting, among other necessary skills to develop an organic agriculture product that will secure a market niche, including the practice of fair trade as well as ensure household level food security. These services shall not be limited to the following:

- a. Education – Continuous training, follow-up, hands-on consultations, and field exposures, including research and development activities;
- b. Information Campaign – Advocacies of organic agriculture, benefits, challenges, updates, as well as farmers’ success stories and information access on the different alternative agricultural practices recognized and identified to

HON. NELSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. ARMANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OJIVER Z. MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBORA, JR.

HON. SIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSHUA LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

organic agriculture through dialogues and forums, and published hand-outs, handbooks, and other reading materials that farmers can access. In addition, information education and awareness campaigns for consumers in general shall also be done;

- c. Production – Information of making and other access to organic farm inputs (such as but not limited to compost fertilizers, inoculants, and foliar such as effective micro-organisms and other natural fermentations); financial assistance/support to pre and post-production, including rehabilitation and postharvest facilities devoted solely for organic agriculture produce such as but not limited to multi-pass rice mills for unpolished rice;
- d. Marketing – fair trade and pricing (farm gate and market prices); available market outlets, trading posts including “bagsakan”, organic markets and organic eateries and the like; inclusion of the marketing and trade of organic agriculture in festivals or fairs of cities, municipalities and the province;
- e. Branding of Products – consultation as to labeling the organic products with DANOAB/DTI/FPA/DOST including processing for higher value-added of the agricultural produce;
- f. Access to credit, whether cash, equipment, or in kind, as well as to official development assistance, grants and donations, and crop insurance, including financial management and accounting and project monitoring and evaluation and preparation of feasibility studies;
- g. Infrastructure and facilities attuned to sustainable organic agriculture activities at the level of the marginalized farmer including but not limited to shredder, water impoundment structures for upland communities; and
- h. Subsidy and incentives to smallholder farmers who opt to practice organic agriculture such as:
 - 1. provision of organic inputs for the first 3 years of the implementation of this ordinance to organized groups or communities of small-holder farmers defined as those engaged in farming of 3 hectares or below and beneficiaries of the agrarian reform program on an interest-free payback scheme;

HON. LARKSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. ARMANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OAVEN Z. MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOUISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBIDA, JR.

HON. SIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

2. subsidy or counter-parting scheme for organic certification for smallholder groups of farmers for the first year of the implementation of this ordinance, and thereafter, the development of a socialized scheme of certification fee and the institutionalization of internal control system mechanisms, whereby the certification and inspection shall be partially done by the smallholder group of farmers;
3. provision of health care and medical assistance benefits to smallholder farmers engaged in organic agriculture; and
4. such other subsidies or incentives as the Committee may recommend; provided, however, that the City shall work towards empowering smallholder farmers towards self-sufficiency.

SECTION 14. BIOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL CONTROL. – Organic farmers shall practice and utilize biological and botanical methods, which rely on predation, parasitism, herbivory, or other natural mechanisms in the control of pests in their organic farm. Maximum protection of beneficial insects and animals shall be practiced.

SECTION 15. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. – There shall also be formulated as a component of the part of the City Organic Agricultural Plan a Master Plan for Research and Development that will be funded and regularly updated in consultation with different sectors, as proposed in the Office’s Annual Investment Plan, approved and appropriated with funds in the City Annual Budget.

Farmers, institutions, and other stakeholders (such as but not limited to private entities, NGOs, and LGUs) participation in all phases of the research and development of the master plan and its implementation should be ensured.

The City Organic Agricultural Plan for Research & Development will include the data bank of organic agriculture to monitor the progress of organic agriculture in the City and to be used in the development of an Organic Agriculture Road Map for the City. The data bank will be administered by the BCTCOA. The data bank should include among others a list of existing organic or in-conversion farmers; their products, volume, and hectarage; and a list of certified organic inputs producers.

SECTION 16. CAPACITY-BUILDING. – To sustain and broaden the base for the implementation of this Ordinance, there is hereby adopted a continuous effort, funded by at least twenty percent of the budget set aside for organic agriculture as identified in Sec. 25 of this Ordinance, for capacity-building and training, including continuous research and development, the accreditation of institutions for standard-testing and verification as well as the establishment of a laboratory and laboratory support services to be identified by the BCTCOA. Measures shall also be adopted to integrate organic agriculture into the primary, secondary, and tertiary school curricula.

HON. WELSON L. CHAVEZ

HON. RICHARDO C. LAZARTE

HON. JOYNER Z. MACATANGAI

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOUISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARETS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALISSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORRENZO A. GAMBORA, JR.

HON. JUDITHA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. SOLEDAD LASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SECTION 17. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT. – By the provisions of Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, there shall be established a 10-year solid waste management plan, with particular emphasis on the management of agricultural wastes in the City, to generate compostable material for the organic agriculture practice that is established by this Ordinance.

SECTION 18. WATERSHED & BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION. – By existing laws, there shall be biodiversity and watershed conservation and rehabilitation to ensure the continuous provision of these ecological and biological services vital to organic agriculture.

SECTION 19. RECOGNITION OF FARMERS' RIGHTS. – Any farmer who may choose to practice organic agriculture in the barangay shall be given priority in providing support. Any existing arrangement of the farmer with any contract grower or trader shall not prevent the farmer from practicing organic agriculture. Any attempt to coerce the farmer not to switch is a violation of the farmer's right to choose the method of farming suitable to his circumstance.

SECTION 20. RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE OF WOMEN. – The role of women in the practice of organic agriculture is recognized. Towards this end, measures shall be taken by the City to comply with its obligations to ensure a gender-fair and gender-balanced development along with support mechanisms to take into account the particular needs of women, from those who are child-bearing and girls of tender age, and the elderly women farm workers.

SECTION 21. ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE ORGANIC FARMERS FESTIVAL. – An Organic Farmers' Festival shall be conducted during the Charter Anniversary celebration of the city each year to promote organic agriculture. The festival shall be the official venue for the giving of recognitions and awards for individuals or organizations engaged in organic agriculture as stipulated in ARTICLE 4 of this ordinance.

ARTICLE 4 - MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION 22. INCENTIVES AND AWARDS SYSTEM. -

- a. The City, in collaboration with the private sector and other government agencies, shall establish and institutionalize incentives and awards system for individuals and organizations, with a preference for small-holder farmers, engaged in organic agriculture, which may include the following components:

HON. NELSON J. CHAVEZ
HON. MAMANDO C. LAZARTE
HON. OLYVER Z. MACAPANGA
HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA
HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG
HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED
HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO
HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO
HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA
HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA
HON. LORENZO A. GAMBORA, JR.
HON. JUDITH M. ATIENZA
HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ
HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

1. annual search and recognition and awards for model farmers and farmer organizations practicing organic farming & farmer organization at the barangay and City level;
 2. access and/or provision of continuous updates in organic farming including scholarships to children of organic farmers/model farmers who shall enroll in organic agriculture-related academic or technical programs;
 3. support for access to organic inputs for big farms to encourage their entry/involvement in organic agriculture; and
 4. such other rewards and incentives that may hereinafter be developed.
- b. The City shall establish and institutionalize an incentive and awards system to encourage the implementation of plans and programs by Barangays (LGUs), non-government organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs) schools, colleges, and/ or universities to promote and develop organic agriculture. These shall be in the form of financial and technical assistance for projects that promote and develop organic agriculture. There shall likewise be annual awards for best practices by category: LGUs, NGOs, POs, Schools and Colleges, and/or Universities.

SECTION 23. PENALTIES AND PROHIBITED ACTS. – Any person, whether natural or juridical, who:

- a. willfully or deliberately violates any of the provisions of this ordinance, including but not limited to (1) mislabeling of organic inputs and organic produce, (2) planting and trading of genetically modified organisms, and (3) encroachment of mining operations in organic agriculture zones; or
- b. willfully or negligently obstructs or delays the implementation of this ordinance and the development of organic agriculture in the City, including misuse, diversion, or material misrepresentation involving support extended by the government and or NGO, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment of not less than one (1) month or more than one (1) year, or a fine of not more than Three Thousand Pesos (PHP 3,000.00) or both, at the discretion of the court. If the offender is a corporation or a juridical entity, the official who ordered or allowed the commission of the offense shall be punished with the same penalty; provided, however, that if such offense is already defined and penalized by the Organic Agriculture Act, such person shall be prosecuted under the statute, without prejudice to the immediately succeeding provisions.

HON. WESLEY J. CHAVEZ

HON. RAMONDO C. LAZARTE

HON. OLIVER Z. MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. CARLOS EMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONOON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBORA, JR.

HON. ISIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JOYASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

In addition to these penalties, the offender, his successors, assigns, and representatives shall be disqualified from availing the support services and incentives provided under this Ordinance for the next three years following his commission of the offense, as may be administratively adjudicated. Moreover, the City shall cancel the business permit/s of such offender and the offender's disqualification to apply for a business permit for the immediately succeeding year.

SECTION 24. CITY ADJUDICATION PANEL. – A City Adjudication Panel is hereby created to hear and resolve cases involving complaints and charges of violations of this ordinance. The Panel shall be composed of a duly authorized representative from the City Legal Office, who shall serve as Chairperson, the City Agriculture Office or his authorized representative, depending on the subject matter of the complaint/charge, a member of the Council coming from the private sector and a third-party organic certification body. They shall administratively determine the commission of the offense complained of or charged and make their findings and recommendations for the approval of the City Mayor regarding the liability of the offender resulting in their disqualification from receiving support from the City.

SECTION 25. MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT TEAMS. – There shall be monitoring and enforcement teams who shall conduct regular proactive and reactive rounds to ensure compliance and apprehend violators of this ordinance. The City, through the CAO, shall create composite teams for this purpose who shall be duly deputized by the City Mayor. The City Government, through the CAO, shall likewise organize community-based monitoring and enforcement teams at the barangay levels. Coordination with the Philippine National Police, Coast Guard, Philippine Ports Authority, and Philippine Aeronautic Aviation Authority shall be done for purposes of monitoring entry and exit points in the City.

ARTICLE 5 – FUNDING AND FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 26. FUNDING REQUIREMENT. – The City Government of Batangas shall appropriate an initial amount as stated in the Office's Annual Investment Plan and approved in the City Local Budget for the implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 27. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – Within one hundred twenty (120) days after the approval of this Ordinance, the Committee shall, upon consultation with all Barangay Officials, government agencies, private sector, Farmer NGOs, and POs and compliance to the Philippine National Standard for Organic Agriculture published by the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards, promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Ordinance: Provided, that failure to issue rules and regulations shall not in any manner affect the executory nature of the provisions of this Ordinance.

The City Agriculture Office shall formulate and issue appropriate rules and regulations for this Ordinance and other measures for the efficient and effective implementation of any and/or all provisions of this Ordinance, as approved by the City Mayor; and shall continue to implement, promote and develop its existing programs and may expand to other initiatives that may be deemed necessary for the fulfilment of this Ordinance, upon availability of funds and subject to future national statutes.

HON. NELSON J. CHAVEZ

HON. ARMANDO C. LAZARTE

HON. QUINCY Z. MACATANGAY

HON. NESTOR E. DIMACUHA

HON. ANDREA LOISE F. MACARAIG

HON. KARLOS EMMANUEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G. BLANCO

HON. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ

HON. MARCUS MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA

HON. LORENZO A. GAMBOA, JR.

HON. ISIDORA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH LUIS F. TOLENTINO



Continuation of Ordinance No. 22-1 S. 2024

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SECTION 28. REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS. – This Ordinance shall be subjected to review and amendments every two (2) years or as needed whichever comes first.

SECTION 29. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All ordinances, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 30. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If for any reason any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 31. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after compliance with the posting and publication requirements set forth under the 1991 Local Government Code.

ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod this 6th day of February, 2024.

ATTY. OLIVA D. TELEGATOS
Secretary

ATTESTED:

ATTY. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

BEVERLEY ROSE A. DIMACUHA
City Mayor

Date Approved: MAR 01 2024

HON. NELSON
G. CHAVEZ

HON. ARMANDO C.
LAZARTE

HON. OWEN Z.
MACATANGAY

HON. ZESTER E.
DIMACUHA

HON. ANAEREA LOISE F.
MACAPAGS

HON. CARLOS
EMANUIEL A. BUTED

HON. HAMILTON G.
BLANCO

HON. MARCUS
MANUEL D. CASTILLO

HON. ANGELITO
DONDON A. DIMACUHA

HON. MICHAEL C.
VILLENA

HON. JORENZO A.
GAMBOA, JR.

HON. SIDRA M. ATIENZA

HON. ZESTER CARLO M.
HERNANDEZ

HON. JOSE JONASH
LUIS F. TOLENTINO

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
BATANGAS CITY**

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION HELD BY THE
MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF BATANGAS CITY
ON FEBRUARY 6, 2024 AT THE SANGGUNIANG SESSION HALL**

PRESENT:

Hon. Alyssa Renee A. Cruz	Presiding Officer
Hon. Hamilton G. Blanco,	Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
Hon. Karlos Emmanjuel A. Buted,	"
Hon. Andrea Loise F. Macaraig,	"
Hon. Nestor E. Dimacuha,	"
Hon. Oliver Z. Macatangay,	"
Hon. Armando C. Lazarte,	"
Hon. Nelson J. Chavez,	"
Hon. Jose Jonash Luis F. Tolentino,	"
Hon. Zester Carlo M. Hernandez,	"
Hon. Isidra "Ched" M. Atienza,	"
Hon. Lorenzo A. Gamboa, Jr.,	"
Hon. Michael C. Villena,	"
Hon. Angelito Dondon A. Dimacuha,	Liga ng mga Barangay President
Hon. Marcus Manuel D. Castillo	SK Pederasyon President

"On motion of SP Member Atienza seconded by SP Member Nestor Dimacuha, the following Resolution was Adopted:

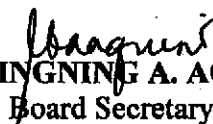
RESOLUTION NO. 22-62 S. 2024

**APPROVING ON SECOND AND FINAL READING THE ORDINANCE ENTITLED:
"AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

RESOLVED, to approve for Second and Final Reading the ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance Institutionalizing, Promoting and Developing Organic Agriculture in the City of Batangas, Providing Funds Therefore and for Other Purposes".

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED."

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 22-62 S. 2024 was approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Batangas City during its Regular Session held on February 6, 2024.


LUNINGNING A. AQUINO
Board Secretary III

NOTED:


ATTY. OLIVA D. TELEGATOS
Secretary

ATTESTED:


ATTY. ALYSSA RENEE A. CRUZ
Presiding Officer



Republic of the Philippines
BATANGAS CITY

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Tel. No. 722-0304

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES

DATE: January 29, 2024

TO: THE HONORABLE VICE MAYOR AND PRESIDING OFFICER ATTY. ALYSSA RENE A. CRUZ AND THE HONORABLE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD MEMBERS

FROM: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE HEARING OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING, AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

BACKGROUND

The stated subject was referred to the undersigned Committee during the Regular Session held on November 21, 2023. The Committee Hearing was called on November 24, 2023, at 11:00 am at the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Batangas Session Hall, Batangas City.

Present during the hearing were the following:

Hon. Ched M. Atienza	SP/Committee Chairperson (Agriculture and Cooperative)
Hon. Zester Carlo M. Hernandez	SP/Committee Member
Hon. Michael C. Villena	SP/Committee Member
Hon. Nelson J. Chavez	SP/Committee Member
Hon. Karlos Emmanjuel A. Buted	SP Member
Hon. Nestor E. Dlimacuha	SP Member
Hon. Lorenzo A. Gamboa	SP Member
Hon. Marcus Manuel D. Castillo	SP Member, SK Federation President
Ms. Flora Alvarez	City Agriculture Office
Mr. Emmanuel M. Salada	City Agriculture Office
Mr. Victor B. Malibiran	Batangas City Vegetable Growers Association, Incorporated, President
Ms. Marisa E. Silva	Banana Growers Association, Secretary
Mr. Nilo D. Aclan	Batangas Cacao Planters Association
Mr. Manolo M. Perlada	City Budget Officer



Republic of the Philippines
BATANGAS CITY

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Tel. No. 722-0304

FINDINGS:

The Chairperson and Members of the Committee and the Members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod identified matters, as follows:

1. All harvested agricultural products intended to be classified as organic produce must undergo a certification procedure as mandated by the law.
2. Funds to support and implement the proposed ordinance on the city and barangay level were never appropriated as the ordinance was introduced at a period when the budget allocation period was already over.
3. The implementing office, the City Agriculture Office, can implement the funding provision of the proposed ordinance through its supplemental budget.
4. The concept and practice of organic agriculture have already been practiced by the City Agriculture Office of several farmers in the City but it cannot be factually claimed that the City has been producing organic agricultural products as the latter lacks certification from legitimate and national certification boards.
5. The concept and practice of organic agriculture in the City are not yet highly known and applied by all local farmers.
6. Local consumers are not that supportive and aware of the organic plant products local farmers produce.

RECOMMENDATION:

Given the foregoing, the Committee recommends the following:

1. Upon approval and enactment of the Ordinance, the City Agriculture Office may submit all relevant program specifications to the City Budget Office.
2. Upon approval and enactment of the Ordinance, the City Agriculture Office may implement the provisions of the Ordinance if it can be integrated into their Annual Investment Program
3. Conduct further studies or gather and collect information relevant to the conversion or transition period required before an animal or crop product is classified as organic.
4. Conduct intensive and comprehensive information and education campaigns to raise awareness among local farmers and consumers.
5. Adoption of this Committee Report.
6. Scheduling for Second Reading in the next Regular Session.



Republic of the Philippines
BATANGAS CITY

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Tel. No. 722-0304

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES

HON. CHED M. ATIENZA

Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture and Cooperatives

HON. NELSON J. CHAVEZ
Member

HON. ZESTER CARLO M. HERNANDEZ
Member

HON. ARMANDO C. LAZARTE
Member

HON. MICHAEL C. VILLENA
Member