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**PSA Clears the Conduct of the Survey for the Project on 2017
Assessing the Potential of Crowdsourcing Technologies in Crop
Forecasting – A Pilot Exercise in the Philippines**

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) authorized the conduct of the survey in line with the project entitled "Assessing the Potential of Crowdsourcing Technologies in Crop Forecasting – A Pilot Exercise in the Philippines". The survey was cleared through the Statistical Survey Review and Clearance System (SSRCS) on 23 January 2017.

The conduct of the survey on crop forecasting using crowdsourcing technologies is a joint collaboration between the PSA and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The project is conducted to assess the potential of crowdsourcing using Short Messaging Service (SMS) in forecasting palay-related statistics. It also aims to explore the feasibility of data processing in real-time through the means of SMS data collection.

The respondents of the survey shall include selected rice farmers of the province of Pampanga. The survey will cover 2 consecutive quarters, i.e., from January to March and April to June 2017, with a total of 324 rice farmers as respondents per round. Data items to be collected shall include area planted, area harvested, production, ecosystem, and situation/status of crops.

The total budget for the survey amounts to Php 3.6 million, which will cover planning and preparation activities, pre-testing of questionnaire, field operation, data processing, and report preparation. The release of the final report of the project is scheduled to take place on the 30th of June 2017.

The said survey was reviewed and cleared for conduct under the SSRCS of PSA, a mechanism being implemented by virtue of Rule 28 of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA No. 10625 to:

- ensure sound design for data collection;
- minimize the burden placed upon respondents;
- effect economy in statistical data collection;
- eliminate unnecessary duplication of statistical data collection; and,
- achieve better coordination of government statistical activities.

In line with this, all respondents are enjoined to support the said survey.

For further information on the SSRCS, please contact the Statistical Standards Division (SSD) of the Standards Service (SS) with telephone numbered: (+632) 376-1928, and (+632) 376-1931, and email address: ssd.staff@psa.gov.ph.

FOR THE NATIONAL STATISTICIAN:


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