



# PCAFExpress

Providing streamlined and updated account on PCAF and its **Advisory Special Bodies'** resolutions and policy studies

# Volunteerism:

*A commitment to making a difference*

The first of two parts

## “What do I need to do?”

This could be a question on many minds on how they could make a difference. The change that we all seek to strengthen and develop the advocacies that we support.

Although, there are still many who have not yet determined which part of the social framework that would draw their interest in

volunteerism, experts encouraged to deal with a common “space” that would require familiarity and generate greater sense of community.

With the end in mind that great things happen through voluntary services such as transforming a society into a better place to live, work and play.

## What is Volunteerism?

Volunteerism is commonly defined as the commitment to provide time, energy, and skills for the benefit of other people rather than for financial reward.

## How to be a Volunteer?

There are many ways to volunteer.

Consider choosing an organization or agency that will fit your passion or helps you get involved in something you care about or are interested in.

Decide what you have to offer.

It is also a bonus if the organization can help you make more connections, increase your confidence, and let you play an important part in the sector that you want to be.

## Why Volunteer?

Volunteerism has created some positive outcome for the community and to the people who engage themselves as volunteers.

It enables people to express social concern and contribute regardless of their socio-economic status, education, cultural background, age or gender.

In the past decades, governments have recognized critical contributions of

volunteers in promoting participation of various sectors from the grassroots up to the national level.

Every individual or group has the right to a voice that contributes and influences the environment, community, or even government policies. Volunteering also enables diverse range of people to use formal avenues to engage and advocate common interest of their sector.

## Volunteerism in the Agriculture and Fishery Sector

In the agriculture and fishery sector, participation of various sectors, both from the private and government, strengthens the practice of volunteerism as a strategy in order to attain national development.

The Agricultural and Fishery Councils or AFCs is the mechanism for private sector participation

in the development processes from the municipal, provincial, and regional levels. While in the national level, the National Sectoral and Strategic Concerns Committees (NSSCCs) deliberate industry, commodity-specific strategic and emerging issues and concerns, and recommend policies and programs to resolve

these issues.

As volunteer-partners in the agriculture and fishery sector, both serve as forums for consultative and continuing discussions among concerned government agencies, local government units, and private entities within the country's agri-fishery industry.

# Focusing on AFCs...

## What comprised the AFCs?

The rural-based AFCs are comprised of 60% stakeholder/organizations of agri-fishery and 40% government agencies.

Agriculture and fisheries' stakeholder / organizations include allied industries and services from private sector, non-government organizations, people's organizations, civic groups, academe, business organizations, and even for individuals.

## For Private Sector, how to be a member?

- Must be a Filipino citizen of good moral character.
- An official representative of a bonafide agri-fishery related organization.

Individuals involved in agriculture and fisheries sector can also join the Council as long as he/she should not be a member of any organization already represented in the Council.

- Must be familiar with the situation of local agri-fishery and allied industries and services.
- Presently engaged in agri-fishery related activities.
- Must be physically and mentally fit.

## What are the membership documents?

### For organization:

- Certified true copy of Registration/Accreditation/Business

## What are the functions of AFCs?

- Facilitate and conduct consultations on agricultural and fishery policy issues and concerns
- Participate in regional and local policy development, planning and budget process of local agricultural and fishery plans, programs and projects.
- Promote awareness and support on regional and local budgets for agri-fisheries.
- Assist DA and LGU in other advocacy works with concerned government agencies and stakeholders.
- Monitor and evaluate agri-fishery sector related regional and local policies, programs and projects.

## What are the organizational composition of AFCs?

The AFCs are organized at the regional, provincial, city and municipal levels as follows:

- Regional Agricultural and Fishery Council (RAFC)
- Provincial Agricultural and Fishery Council (PAFC)
- Highly Urbanized City Agricultural and Fishery Council (HUCAFC)
- Independent Component City Agricultural and Fishery Council (ICCAFC)
- City Agricultural and Fishery Council (CAFC)
- Municipal Agricultural and Fishery Council (MAFC)

- Permit with the appropriate agencies;
- Organization Profile;
- Endorsement letter appointing an official representative and an alternate; and
- Biodata of representative and alternate.

### For individual:

- Letter of intent together with biodata;
- Certified true copy of business registration certificate, if applicable, and
- Certificate of good moral standing issued by the Barangay Chairperson, and endorsement letter from any private organization or

government sector entity or by invitation by a Council member/ Secretariat-Coordinator

Submit these at the nearest AFC office of your choice, located at:

- \* Municipal (Office of the Municipal Agriculturist)
- \* City (Office of the City Agriculturist)
- \* Independent-Component Cities (Office of the City Agriculturist)
- \* Highly Urbanized Cities (Office of the City Agriculturist)
- \* Provincial Capitol (Office of the Provincial Agriculturist)
- \* Regional (DA Regional Field Office)