

Belmonte trains 6,600 participants on urban farming program

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ABOUT 6,600 individuals participated in the recent orientation and training on urban farming under the “Joy of Urban Farming” program of Quezon City Vice Mayor **Joy Belmonte**, held at the Quezon City hall compound.

“Because we are experiencing inflation, we are intensifying the implementation of our urban farming program because more residents are asking for the training,” Belmonte said.

Program participants received training on backyard gardening, eco-waste management, and climate change. They were also given a free starter kit containing seeds, soil, and other implements for farming.

Belmonte added the program can provide a source of livelihood for backyard farmers by selling their produce to earn as much as P400 per day.

Since its launch in Sept. 2010, the Joy of Urban Farming project has attracted a total of 181,414 trainees, with at least 166 urban farms already established in different villages within the city.

The project is being conducted in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, the Division of City Schools, the Quezon City **Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department**, **Liga ng mga Barangay**, Earthworm Sanctuary, Gawad Kalinga and other organizations.