

QC launches urban vegetable garden

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Following the project's success in Manila, the Quezon City local government is set to launch its own urban vegetable garden as part of efforts by the government, led by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), not only to combat the negative effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the county, but also to help bring back Filipinos to farming activities.

The **Quezon City government** has donated a seven-hectare lot to be used for the 'Buhay sa Gulay' project that will benefit families in Barangay Bagong Silangan.

Cleon Lester Chavez, DAR Public Assistance and Media Relation Service chief, said the launch of Quezon City's "Buhay sa Gulay" urban vegetable garden will be held at the New Greenland Farm in Barangay Bagong Silangan on Friday, 8 January.

Chavez said the program will be conducted in partnership with the Department of Agriculture (DA), BREAD Society International and Barangay Silangan.

The Quezon City government has donated a seven-hectare lot to be used for the "Buhay sa Gulay" project that will benefit families around the neighboring barangays.

On 3 January, the first urban vegetable garden located in St. John Bosco, Tondo, Manila, was harvested of crops. Residents were able to generate sales totaling P50,000 from the harvest of more than 1,000 kilos of vegetables.

Chavez said to immediately follow suit and establish its own urban vegetable garden is the Caloocan City government.

Following the success of its "Buhay sa Gulay" project, DAR Secretary John Castriciones emphasized the need for Filipinos to unite and help one another as the country continues to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic this 2021.

Castriciones said the "Buhay sa Gulay" Harvest Festival demonstrated the concerted effort of local and national government agencies in bringing about farm products in the city through the dedication, commitment and hard work provided by farmer-scientists from Cavite and the Tondo urban farmers.