



FEDERATION OF MULTI-SECTORAL ALLIANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT-NEGROS

(MU-AD-Negros), Inc.

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Dear Prime Minister,

We, the Federation of Multi-sectoral Alliance for Development - Negros, a partner organization to We Effect, write to you to express our deep concerns of the decision to dramatically cut Sweden's official development assistance.

The war in Ukraine has underlined how severely vulnerable groups are affected in times of crisis. Already enduring the economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate crisis, people in poverty are now suffering from skyrocketing food prices.

The Secretary-General of the UN warns that 1,7 billion people – one-fifth of the world's population – are at risk of hunger and poverty. The world is in the worst humanitarian situation since World War II. Nearly half of humanity lives in the danger zone of the climate crisis.

We, in the Philippines, bear witness of the UN reports. With this in mind, the historic and tragic decision to cut the development assistance will impact us in unprecedented ways. For us, the cut has drastic implications/effects.

- The critical project activities to increase the capacity of our assisted small farmers to produce more food for their families and the surrounding communities will be cut short.
- The momentum of the distribution system for the small farmers' food products to the urban communities is to be reduced due to the limited manpower and logistical support.
- The gains achieved by our project in the past four years, particularly in building the capacity of women to engage in farming enterprises and to participate in the value chain, are in danger of being diminished because of the reduced resources.



Dear Magdalena, as Sweden's prime minister and leader of your government, we know you are a strong believer in international solidarity. We can't thank you enough for the support your country has given in the past.

We now encourage you to stand with us in these desperate times and re-evaluate the decision to cut development assistance, to make sure that the consequences of the war in Ukraine and the climate crisis will be as limited as possible.

Show your full support to civil society organisations and people in poverty that we support. Your financial support is needed more than ever. It is a long-term investment in a more sustainable and just world.

We look forward to your reply.

Danilo Malunes
President
MUAD-Negros
Cooperative

Gilda Parreno
Chairperson
Agricultural Producers

Reynic Alo
Executive Director
MUAD-Negros
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