

Our Way Forward

Food, Forests, and Farmers *Finding Sustainable Pathways for the Future*



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ABSTRACT

Transform Philippine Agriculture for Food Security, Job Creation and Balanced Growth

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Concerns about the state of forests, food security and farmers' welfare are framed against the pandemic-exacerbated challenge of transforming Philippine agriculture to be the main food provider, job creator and growth engine for the economy.

Twelve major policy recommendations are presented to achieve this objective.

About the Author

Leonardo Q. Montemayor is a 1971 AB Philosophy graduate (summa cum laude) of the Ateneo de Manila University. After finishing college, he has worked full-time for the cause of small farmers, fisher folk, workers, cooperatives, and the urban poor.

Mr. Montemayor was a four-term Congressman representing the peasant and urban poor sectors. He served as Secretary of Agriculture in 2001-2002.

Other past positions include: President, Federation of Free Farmers; Vice-President, International Federation of Agricultural Producers; Chairman, United Coconut Planters Bank-Coconut Industry Investment Fund (UCPB-CIIF) Finance and Development Corporation; and Vice-President, Trade Union Congress of the Philippines.

Currently, "Ka Leonie" - as he is commonly called - is FFF Board Chairman and Vice-President of the National Trade Union Center-Philippines.