

Climate-Smart Villages as Platforms for Community-Level Anticipatory Climate Adaptation to Improve Food Security and Resiliency: A Roving Workshop

19-20 September 2023

Virtual via Zoom

25-30 September 2023

Face-to-face at SEARCA in Los Baños, Laguna, and at the Yen Center of IIRR in Silang, Cavite, Philippines. The roving workshops will be in Bailen, General Emilio Aguinaldo in Cavite; Laguna province; and Pagbilao and Guinayangan in Quezon province.

Course Description

This eight-day blended course on *Climate-Smart Villages (CSVs) as Platforms for Community-Level Anticipatory Climate Adaptation to Improve Food Security and Resiliency* is organized and implemented by the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) and the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR).

This course is designed for participants across Southeast Asia to visit communities to witness first hand how food systems-sensitive climate change adaptation (CCA) platforms are established, sustained, and scaled at community levels. Specifically, the target participants of this course are:

- Members of the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network
- University professors/researchers
- Agricultural extension officers
- Representatives of farmer groups/cooperatives
- Private sector CSR/sustainability officers
- Other CCA practitioners and decision-makers in the government or NGOs

This collaborative effort between SEARCA and IIRR aims to enhance the capabilities of the participants to promote, disseminate, and advocate for local platforms for scaling inclusive forms of climate-smart agriculture and anticipatory climate adaptation.

Course Objectives



Enhance knowledge and understanding of the CSV approach as an adaptation platform for building community level capacities to cope with climate change, foster equity and address livelihood and food security priorities;



Identify practical strategies and approaches for diversification and intensification to reduce the risks of smallholder farmers to extreme weather, rising temperatures, and variable weather;



Understand the challenges and opportunities in CSA in different agroecosystems (coastal, lowland and uplands);



Identify and understand the social, institutional, technical, and policy considerations in programming for climate change adaptation in CSVs; and



Formulate action plans reflecting application of lessons learned and insights gained from the course.

Methodology

Module 1: Understanding the Climate-Smart Village (CSV) Approach for Building Capacities to Cope with Climate Change and the Practice of Establishing CSVs

The participants will be provided an overview of the CSV approach as an adaptation platform for building community-level capacities to cope with climate change, address livelihood and food security priorities. Participants will have an opportunity to share and learn from fellow participants about interventions related to CCA. They will learn first hand about community efforts being undertaken to address climate change, livelihoods and food security. The processes involved in setting up CSVs, the role of support systems, ways of engaging women and the importance of learning groups and participatory action research will be explored.

Module 2. Strategies and Approaches to Reduce Climate Change Risks, Address Socio Technical Challenges and Explore Adaptation Opportunities in Different Agroecosystems

Program/project sustainability is linked to the participation and ownership of stakeholders. This module focuses on various participatory approaches, methods, and tools that can be employed to effectively engage communities as active actors and learners during the project period and beyond. The role of local governments and the need for collaborative engagement will be prominently featured.

Module 3. Reflection and Synthesis Workshop (Agroecosystem Specific Applications and Lessons)

After the field visit to the different clusters of agroecosystems in Guinayangan, Quezon Province, and Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Cavite, the participants will engage in a reflection and synthesis workshop to draw lessons in relation to principles, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the interventions undertaken. These interventions will include diversified agroforestry and mangrove restoration, agrobiodiversity restoration, ways to enhance biodiversity and de-risk ecosystems, and anticipatory adaptation to climate change. Social, institutional, and policy considerations will receive attention. Participants will discuss resilience building, inclusiveness, scaling, and sustainability approaches.

Module 4. Action Planning

The participants will prepare an action plan identifying programs or activities, along with practical strategies and approaches, that they will undertake upon their return to their country or community. These action plans will include activities that are appropriate to their national or community's food security priorities, generated from their reflection and synthesis workshop. Each participant will be asked to share their action plans in plenary, presenting them to a panel of reactors who will provide feedback on the presented plans.

Course Details



Course Fee

The course fee of USD 2,000 covers the course materials, meals, accommodation, field visits, and airport transfers. Fees do not include international airfare, laundry, and incidental expenses. SEARCA will be offering limited and competitive grants for a subsidized course fee. Please indicate in your application if you wish to apply for a SEARCA grant.



Connect with us!

SEARCA: training@searca.org
IIRR: education.training@iirr.org



Apply now!

The deadline for applications is on 11 August 2023. Course your application through: bit.ly/CSVCCA2023

