

# LIBERATING FARMERS FROM POVERTY AND HUNGER: SUCCESS STORIES OF THE FARMER- SCIENTISTS RDE TRAINING PROGRAM (FSTP)

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**FSTP: A PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM WITH FARMERS, DILG, LGUs, SCUs, UPLB, DA, DOST, DAR, DENR, CHED, NGOs under E.O. 710**

**MOTTO: We Gather Knowledge to Scatter.**

**THEME: Empowering Farmers for Socio-Economic Progress.**

# **FSTP is a Technical Science- based Community Development Program**

**It is focused on Corn as Food staple next to Rice.**

# WHAT IS A SCIENTIST?

“He watches things.

He reads.

He finds out how things work.  
and how they can be made  
better.

He wonders.

He experiments.

He finds out what is true.

He sees that wonderful things do  
indeed happen.”

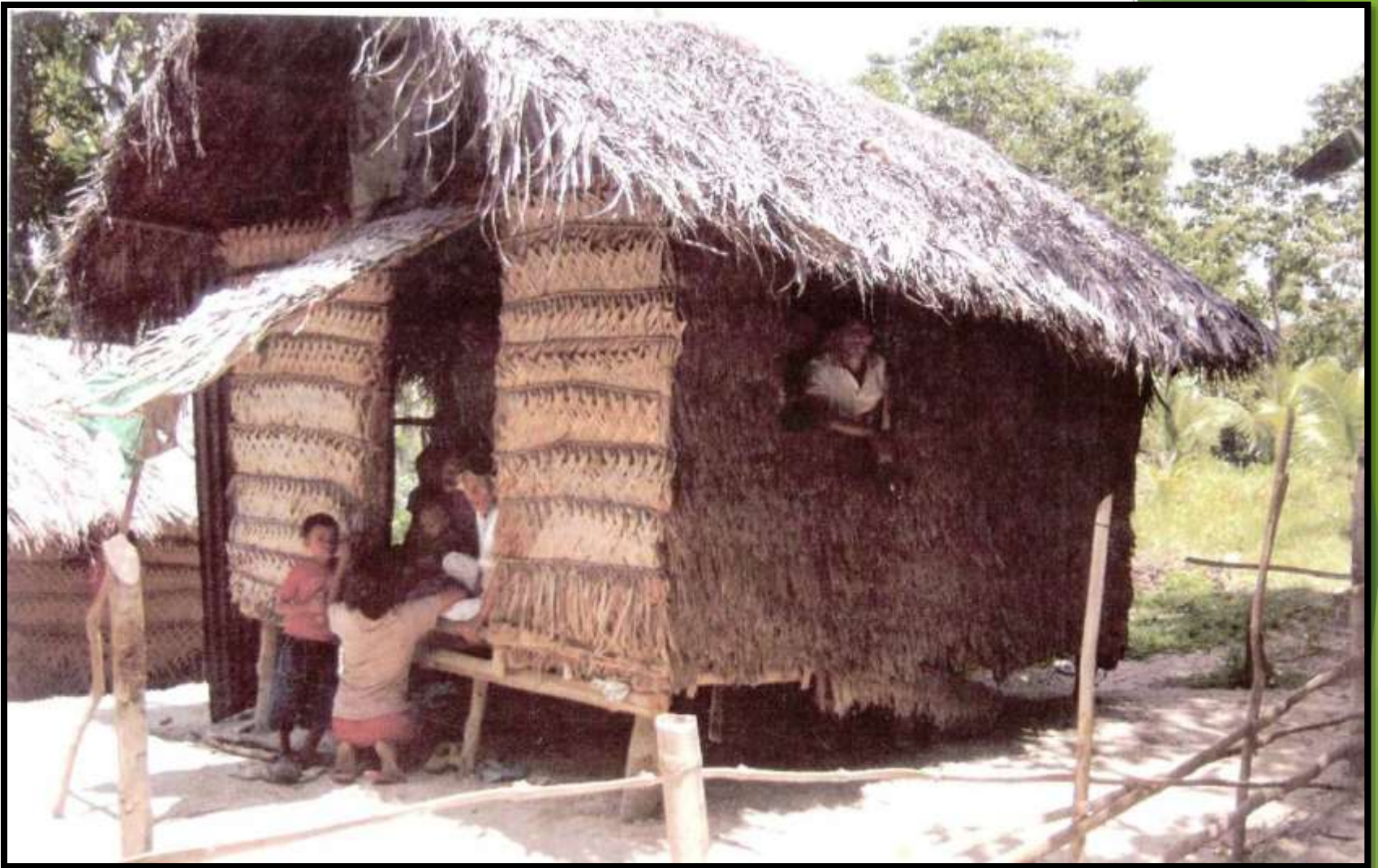
**THE CORN-BASED FARMER-SCIENTISTS RDE  
TRAINING PROGRAM IS BASED ON THE  
ASSUMPTIONS THAT:**

- ***THERE IS NO BARREN SOIL, ONLY  
BARREN MIND;***  
***and***
- ***FARMING IS BUSINESS***

**IT IS DESIGNED TO LIBERATE POOR  
FARMERS FROM THE BONDAGE OF  
POVERTY AND HUNGER**



Poor corn harvest of a poor farmer.



**Home of the poorest farmers in San Isidro,  
Leyte.**



**Home of Mangyans in the mountain of  
Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro.**



# **FSTP FORMULA TO FORCE FARMERS TO GET RICH**

**KKAA (FARMER) + FSTP + MERCADO = PUGOS  
UG KADATO**

**K-KOGI (Sipag, Hard Work)**

**K-KUSOG (Lakas, Strength)**

**A-ANTOS (Tiis, Sacrifice)**

**A- AMPO (Dasal, Prayer)**

**FSTP - Farmer-Scientists RDE Training Program**

**MERCADO- Market (Palengke)**

**PUGOS UG KADATO - Forced to Become Rich  
(Mapilitang Yumaman)**

Formulated by:

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Professor of Plant Pathology

College of Agriculture

University of the Philippines Los Baños

**1995**

# Scope of FSTP

## SCOPE OF THE FSTP

**THE FSTP CORN-BASED  
PRODUCTION SYSTEM INTEGRATES  
CROPS & ANIMAL PRODUCTION  
TECHNOLOGIES TO MAXIMIZE  
FARM INCOME**



**CORN**



**VEGETABLES**



**BANANA**



**CATTLE**



**MILKING COW**



**POULTRY**



**GOAT**



**SWINE**



**MARKET**

# HOW FSTP OPERATES

## PHASE I

### VALUE FORMATION, RESEARCH EXPOSURE AND TECHNICAL EMPOWERMENT

Farmers and Scientists set up experimental plots of corn to compare the effects of organic fertilizers vs. inorganic fertilizers; IPM; varietal trials; intercropping system; and others.

Cultivation of the farmer's mind for love of God, country and people is also emphasized.

# **PHASE II**

## **ON-FARM EXPERIMENTATION AND TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION**

**Farmers replicate their research experiences from Phase I in to their own farms. They set up experiments with the assistance of scientists/experts and agricultural technicians to determine which production technologies are adoptable in their farms.**

# **PHASE III**

## **FARMER-TO FARMER TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND ADOPTION**

**The farmer-scientists share their expertise by teaching untrained fellow farmers how to generate and develop farming technologies based on their Phase I and Phase II experiences. They use either the Adopt-A-Farmer model or Adopt-A-Barangay model with LGUs support. They are backed up by the MAO, ATs and experts/scientists from other agencies when needed.**

# THE SUCCESS STORIES

1. Corn Production in Cebu has increased from 0.5 tons/ha to 4.0-6.0 tons/ha or more through introduction/adoption of high-yielding open pollinated varieties (OPVs) and hybrids.

Note: 1. Cebu food self sufficiency has increased to 74% from 38% 2. Poverty alleviation down to 24% from 40%.



**BEFORE  
FSTP**

**SHORTAGE**

**AFTER  
FSTP**

**SURPLUS**

**In Cebu**



**Farmer-Scientist Yolanda Portugalete proudly shows big ears of IPB Var 4 corn she harvested from her farm in barangay Valencia, Alegria, Cebu.**





**A bountiful harvest of IPB Var 4 from her farm is shown by Farmer-Scientist Vitaliana Jamio as corn ears are piled in the sala and porch of her home in Valencia, Alegria, Cebu.**



**Farmer-Scientist Diogracias Ventic, Jr. of Oslob, Cebu poses with his corn plants producing two extra large-sized of corn ears (puso) with a total yield of 7 tons per hectare. He earned Php 70, 000 from sales of his surplus corn grains/grits for food.**



**Mangyan Farmer-Scientists Panginan Ehoy (left) and Beldo Genya (right) show their large-sized corn ears harvested from their varietal trial. Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro.**



**Blaan FSTP farmers hold up their big-sized corn ears grown from their farms. Paraiso, Alabel, Sarangani.**

2. Cost of corn production was reduced by about 50% through the introduction of BIO-N, a microbial fertilizer developed by UPLB-BIOTECH, and organic fertilizers like chicken manure, vermicompost, and others.



**For his on-farm experiment on the application of fertilizer to corn (Phase II), Ramonsito Labajo showed that the combination of Bio-N plus Chicken manure is a good and cheaper substitute for urea.**



**Farmer-Scientist Potenciano Alayaay of Lazi, Siquijor shows sacks of vermi-compost he produced to fertilize his farm.**

**3. Farmers' income from corn increased from zero before FSTP to Php 125,000 or more after FSTP. They gained additional income amounting to at least Php100,000 per family per growing season from their sales of vegetables, fruits, livestock, and other farm products. Some of them who are engaged in agri-business are millionaires already.**



## Partial list of Farmer-Scientists engaged in Agribusiness who are millionaires already or about to become one.

Farmer-Scientists	Annual Income		Address
	Before FSTP	After FSTP	
1. Morena Dalagan	Php 178,000.00	Php 1,500,000.00	Liberty, Tampakan, South Cotabato
2. Jose Ruben	Php 100,000.00	Php 30,000,000.00	Bayabas, Arago, Cebu
3. Rolando Mah	Php 200,000.00	Php 3,000,000.00	Mapang, Rizal, Zamboanga del Norte
4. Arlene Montejo	Php 30,000.00	Php 1,000,000.000	Sudlon II, Upland City Cebu
5. Felix Albores	Php 50,000.00	Php 1,000,000.000	Sudlon II, Upland City Cebu
6. Jorge Llego	Php 100,000.00	Php 681,000.00	Langin, Ronda, Cebu
7. Jovencio Lanticse	Php 100,000.00	Php 646,000.00	Bayabas, Aragao, Cebu
8. Larry Lomosad	Php 15,000.00	Php 521,000.00	New Barili, Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte
9. Columbus Radan	Php 15,000.00	Php 373,000.00	Antipolo, Tuburan Cebu
10. Elnard Ympal	Php 15,000.00	Php 144,000.00	San Juan, Siquijor
11.F-S 1,045 Cebu Survey	Php 9,534,840.00	Php 20,692,415.00 (117% increase)	Different barangays and towns in Cebu



**Farmer-Scientists Jose Ruben and wife Devorah are with UPLB FSTP Program Leader Dr. R.G. Davide beside their new pick up. On the right side, are their three-storey house and commercial center.**

**Before joining FSTP, their annual income from the vegetable-based farming system was about Php100,000.00. After FSTP, their annual income reached Php 30 million and now have a new home in Brgy. Bayabas, Argao, Cebu. He used to be a laborer and tricycle driver and vegetable farmer in Ablayan, Dalaguete, Cebu.**



**Farmer-Scientist millionaire Prescillano Albores of Sudlon II, Upland Cebu City, poses with his multicab pickup and his two-storey house with grocery store in the first floor.**



**Farmer-Scientist Prescillano Albores of Sudlon II, Upland Cebu City, poses with his Chinese cabbage vegetables. He grows also eggplants, ampalaya, lettuce, pechay, tomatoes, and others.**

**Farmer-Scientist Arlene Montejo and her family from upland Sudlon II, Cebu City used to live in their parents' house but now have their own home (top) and delivery truck (below) after FSTP training.**



Farmer-scientist Arlene Montejo and her family of upland Sudlon II, Cebu City used to live in their parents' home but now have their own home (top) and delivery truck after her FSTP training.



**Farmer-Scientist millionaire Arlene Montejo of Sudlon II, Upland Cebu City holds her big-sized Chinese cabbage ready for market delivery by her truck.**



**Farmer-Scientist Jovencio Lanticse of Argao, Cebu shows his delivery truck loaded with bags of vegetables, fruits, and others for delivery to markets in Cebu City.**



**Farmer-Scientist Morena Dalagan and husband Andres dispatch their trucks loaded with bananas at the pier of General Santos City for their weekly shipment and sale to Manila. They are from Brgy. Liberty, Tampakan, South Cotabato.**





**Farmer-Scientist Morena with her inspirations in life: supportive husband Andres and son Angelo at their home which also serves as her office.**



**B'laan Farmer-Scientist Ric Tangge shows his harvested hybrid corn. He is now a licensed seed grower of Abol, Sarangani. Last year, he sold 190 bags of his corn seeds at Php1,000.00 per bag.**

4. Improvements of the quality of life and living standard of the poor farmers are evident in their construction of new concrete houses to replace their nipa huts; purchase of home appliances, multicabs, motorcycles; and above all, sending their children to college for professional degrees.

Note: A Farmer-Scientist Isidro Saroná of Argao, Cebu has 9 children. 2 Lawyers, 2 Marine Engineers, 2 Nurses, 2 Teachers and 1 Midwife.



**Farmer-Scientist Felicidad Ortiza poses in front of her old wooden house and with her husband and daughter in front of her new concrete house.**

Farmer's House Before FSTP ....



**Farmer-Scientist  
Leonito  
Manzanades of  
Apo, Argao, Cebu  
poses with his  
house before FSTP  
(top) and after  
FSTP (below).**



**Farmer-Scientist Marciana Montanez of Apo, Argao, Cebu poses with her house before FSTP (left) and after FSTP (right).**



**Farmer-Scientist Nilo Tayong of San Isidro, Leyte with his corn farm (left) and his new house (right) which he built out of his farm income.**



**Farmer-Scientist Lucia Baculta poses with her new house and multicab. Brgy. Sudlon II, Upland Cebu City.**



**She holds a picture of her son when he graduated from an agriculture college. He is now self employed as agri-businessman.**





**A Blaan Farmer-Scientist Mabini Balco poses with his wife in front of their house with her store on the right side and on the left, a picture of their two daughters who have graduated from college. Brgy. Alegria, Alabel, Sarangani. June 14, 2016.**

## 5. Restoration of Peace and order in NPA and insurgency areas.

- a. In Cebu there is no more NPA-Military encounter since 2005. The army 78<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion has been transferred to Negros Occidental.
- b. All towns under FSTP in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao are generally peaceful. Farmers are now living in peace and prosperity.

# CEBU CHOOSES FSTP FOR PEACE

WAR?

OR

PEACE  
WITH  
FSTP!



*Captain Cabunoc and his men (above) were responsible for the peaceful surrender of al Qaeda-linked rebels in Sulu province. As much a part of a military man's responsibilities is community development (right), marking his service to country in war as well as in peace.*

Starweek >The Sunday magazine of The Philippine STAR>March 13, 2005



Argao Mayor Wilfredo S. Caminero (left with orange T-shirt) leads his fellow farmer-scientists delegates holding up big-sized ears of corn in his farm in Colawin, Argao, Cebu during the 2<sup>nd</sup> FSTP Field Day and Congress. September 23, 2004.

6. Introduction of entrepreneurship program especially for the upland communities through formation of cooperatives and farmers' associations to process and market their farm products like banana chips, camote chips, corn grits, corn coffee, squash noodles, and others.



**Farmer-Scientist Ma. Lina Raposa of Barangay Maltana, Tampakan, South Cotabato shows her booming banana chips business.**



**Corn products consisting of corn-coffee and corn grits (yellow and white) from the San Andres Corn-based Farmer-Scientists Association (SACFSA). San Andres, Quezon Province.**



The improved charcoal stove made by the SACFSA for sale



Cassava granulator of SACFSA



The corn drying facility of SACFSA



The Coco sugar production building of SACFSA

**Agribusiness equipment and facilities of San Andres Corn-based Farmer-Scientists Association (SACFSA).**



**The officers of San Andres Corn Farmer-Scientists Association pose with their Municipal Agriculturist Ms. Agnes Caagbay (green T-shirt).**



**7. FSTP has already trained more than 70,000 farmers nationwide and yet none of them has been reported for any criminal acts. They no longer complain on the lack of food to eat. Their surplus farm products like corn, vegetables, root and fruit crops, and animal products are sold to local markets, thus, increasing their income above poverty.**



**The more than 200 FSTP farmer-graduates with 81 of them Blaans from Alabel, Sarangani in Mindanao during their graduation on September 21, 2012.**



**The more than 2,000 FSTP-trained Cebuano Farmer-Scientists attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Farmer-Scientists Congress of Cebu held at Naga City, Cebu on November 29, 2016. Recognizing their needs, Cebu Governor Hilario P. Davide III distributed corn mills, planters, and truck loads of sweet potato and cassava cuttings to the farmers.**

**8. FSTP improves the farmers' leadership. Many of them have become officials of Local Government Units (LGUs) like barangay captains and municipal councilors and others acting as Agricultural Technicians or as FSTP Municipal Coordinators.**

**9. FSTP involves and enhances of the research and extension capabilities of LGUs and State College and Universities (SCUs).**

## 10. Discoveries by Farmer-Scientists

Several of them have developed and produced their own hybrid corn or open pollinated varieties (OPVs) to supply their own seeds and sold their surplus to fellow farmers.



**Farmer-Scientist Felipe Duaso of San Andres, Quezon, discovered that seaweeds (Sargassum sp.) can control corn borer pest of corn plants.**



**Farmer-Scientist Cirila Cuyacot of Ubay, Bohol discovered sea water as a practical and suitable fertilizer and shows her husband and son the luxuriant growth of her peanuts in plots fertilized with sea water.**





**MUTYA SIGE-SIGE  
VARIETY**

**By Florencia Mutia, AT-  
FS, Cabanglasan,  
Bukidnon.  
Tinigib x Pioneer White**



**KINAYAW CORN VARIETY**

**By Farmer-Scientist Jerry J.  
Demon of Brgy. Kinayao,  
Bagumbayan, Sultan  
Kudarat.**

# The Risky Job of UPLB Extension Staff



**Ms. Wilma S. Velasco, FSTP Staff, gets off the boat she was riding to cross a 50 meter-wide river and monitor the FSTP project in Brgy. Lincoro, San Jorge, Samar.**



**Mr. Melecio J. Maghanoy, FSTP Study Leader, climbs a rocky and sloping mountain in Brgy. Manual, Oriental Mindoro to monitor the FSTP project of Farmer-Scientist Yoto Idlao on February 11, 2015.**



**Dr. Romulo G. Davide, FSTP Project Leader, passes through an irrigation pipe as bridge in going to Barangay Nasipit, Barili, Cebu to visit Phase II farms of FSTP farmers. Taken August 27, 1997.**



**Dr. Romulo G. Davide, FSTP Project Leader, rides a motorcycle known as “habal-habal” with Mr. Antonio A. Arnejo, FSTP Study Leader, on their way to visit Phase II on-farm trials of FSTP farmers in Barili, Cebu. Taken February 14, 1996.**



**Ms. Guilly Valencia, FSTP-UPLB Study Leader, rides a carabao to cross a river in going to the FSTP experimental site in San Narciso, Quezon. August 7, 2014.**



**Mr. Maghanoy crosses the river aboard a bamboo pole-driven banca on his way to observe and monitor the urban garden project at the riverside community in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro.**

# FATHER OF FSTP ROMULO G. DAVIDE

*through the years...*



*With our  
missionary spirit,  
we made our  
community  
service highly  
successful.*

*Thank you  
and  
God bless us all.*

A gift from the UPLB FSTP staff of Dr. Romulo G. Davide on the occasion of his 80th birthday on March 14, 2014, at UP Los Baños, College, Launa.