

Regional Knowledge Sharing Writershop on Climate Change Adaptation in Inclusive and Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (ISARD)



15-17 April 2015

SEARCA, College, Los Baños Laguna, Philippines



SEARCA



OML Center
Science for Climate Resilient Communities

Background and Rationale

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report (IPCC AR5) asserts that climate change is “unequivocal, and that human activities, particularly emissions of carbon dioxide, are very likely to be the dominant cause”. Supporting this claim with scientific findings and changes that have been observed in all geographical regions over the last 50 years, the same report warns that impacts of climate change would inevitably threaten global food security and the gains that have been achieved in sustainable development in the face of the world’s growing population.

In order to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change that are already happening and at the same time reduce if not totally avoid their potential damage, governments, communities and organizations around the world have started to develop adaptation plans and policies and integrate climate change adaptation into broader environmental and sustainable development programs and investments. The IPCC defines adaptation as “*adjustments in ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects or impacts. It refers to changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change.*” Adaptation commonly focuses on reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, and increasing adaptive capacity and coping range.

In agriculture, climate change adaptations vary in scope from national initiatives like LiDAR and GIS mapping of flood-prone areas to inform changes in cropping calendar, and strategic research to breed heat-tolerant livestock; to community endeavors like holding enhanced farmer field schools, rain water harvesting, and other non-conventional irrigation schemes; down to farm-level practices like switching to crops that fare better under drought conditions, and conservation agriculture practices including low or zero tillage, agroforestry, and sloping agricultural land technology (SALT), among others.

In this context, the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) with the Oscar M. Lopez Center for Climate Change

Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (OML Center) is convening a **Regional Knowledge Sharing Writershop on Climate Change Adaptation in Inclusive and Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (ISARD)**. It will be an avenue for exchanging ideas and experiences among climate change adaptation practitioners, researchers, experts and scientists, and other relevant stakeholders focusing on inclusive and sustainable agricultural and rural development (ISARD). The intent is to subsequently share more widely the writershop outputs to inform development policies, programs and investments, at the same time contributing to further generation of sound scientific knowledge on climate change adaptation in the context of ISARD.

Objectives

1. Share knowledge, experiences, empirical evidences and lessons learned from implementation of projects on climate change adaptation in the context of inclusive and sustainable agriculture and rural development (ISARD).
2. Identify opportunities and modalities for fostering collaboration and networking among climate change adaptation practitioners, researchers and scientists and policymakers to consolidate information on climate change adaptation in ISARD.
3. Contribute to an enabling policy platform and technical capacity to support the implementation of applicable, effective and successful adaptation measures in the region.

Expected Outputs

- Documentation and synthesis of adaptation practices, options, lessons, and coping mechanisms, including synergies with mitigating the impacts of climate change, in the context of ISARD.
- Packaging of an initial sourcebook volume on CCA in the context of ISARD.
- Strengthening of networking among CCA practitioners, researchers, experts and scientists in the region.

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Intended Participants

Selected climate change adaptation practitioners, researchers, experts, policymakers and scientists, and other relevant stakeholders as well as those who have been involved in the implementation of pilot adaptation programs.

Selected Countries

Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, and Timor Leste

Workshop Agenda

TIME	15 April (Wed)	16 April (Thurs)	17 April (Fri)
8:00-8:15	Registration	Registration	Registration
8:15-8:30		Recap of Day 1	Recap of Day 2
8:30-9:00	Opening Program and Workshop Overview	Session 4: Crosscutting and Specialized Adaptations	Peer-reviews in small groups
9:00-10:00	Keynote Presentation: Climate-Smart Agriculture in the Context of ISARD		
10:00-10:15	COFFEE/TEA		
10:15-12:00	Session 1: Selected Sub-regional and National Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Open Forum • Discussion of Insights and Lessons • Writeshop Guidelines 	Presentation of Writeshop Outputs and Sub-group Syntheses
12:00-1:30	LUNCH		
1:30-3:00	Session 2: Selected Community-level Adaptations	Writeshop	Continuation of Presentation of Writeshop Outputs and Sub-group Syntheses
3:00-3:15	COFFEE/TEA		
3:15-5:00	Session 3: Selected Farm-level Adaptations	Writeshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and Integration • Publication Guidelines/ Protocols • Next Steps and Closing Remarks
5:00-6:00	Free	Free/Work on Own Time	Free
7:00	Welcome Dinner		

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