

Third Country Training Program on
Building Capacities for Asian NGOs
in Poverty Eradication through
Community Action

Sustainable Agriculture

A Viable Alternative for Resource-Poor Farmers

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROCEEDINGS

06-25 November 2005
University Hotel, UP Diliman,
Quezon City, Philippines



ANGOC

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian
Reform and Rural Development



Japan International Cooperation Agency



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ANGOC would also like to thank:

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- Resource Persons
- Department of Agriculture
- Central Luzon State University
- South East Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute
- Department of Foreign Affairs
- National Economic Development Authority-Special Committee on Scholarships
- Rainier Almazan and Rachel Polestico
- Fr. Francis Lucas and Roel Ravanera
- Teresa Lingan-Debuque, Troy Dilidili, Oscar Adiova and Carmencita Hernandez
- ANGOC Secretariat: Nathaniel Don Marquez, Maricel Almojuela-Tolentino, Teresito Elumba, Cathy Ordon, Cecille Trinidad, Joseph Onesa and Catherine Liamzon.

Under the Third Country Training Program (TCTP) of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Government of Japan and the Government of the Philippines through the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) organized the course entitled, "Building Capacities of Asian NGOs in Poverty Eradication through Community Action." The module for FY 2005 was "Sustainable Agriculture: a Viable Alternative for Resource-poor Farmers."

Eradicating absolute poverty is becoming the single biggest challenge of development work today. The Asia-Pacific region is home to 75% of all poor people in the world. Most of them are in highly marginalized rural agricultural communities.

Poverty especially in rural communities places heavy stress on the natural resource base. At the same time, Asian agriculture is experiencing the backlash of years of environmental neglect. Studies have shown that the growth in aggregate output of rice has been declining over recent years due to rapid degradation of the environment. Pesticides poisoning, declining soil fertility, soil erosion, flash floods, and loss of biological diversity – all these are reaching an alarming stage.

Global and regional trends denote a pattern of polarizing resources and markets to globalization with obscure benefits to the poor. Field initiatives should thus prepare for or change the effects of the threats globalization poses to food security and empowerment at the village level. Policy work that neutralizes these trends must be linked to practical field action, factored into strategies and applied at the regional level. As such, ensuring household food security is the best antidote to grassroots communities subjected to the forces of globalization.

It is imperative that household food security concerns as well as promoting community-based natural resource management are undertaken within the context of reducing poverty within rural communities. Among the many agricultural systems, Sustainable Agriculture (SA) practices and technologies have shown potential as an effective poverty reduction intervention. Moreover, it is a holistic approach to farming that is characterized by regenerative techniques inspired by indigenous knowledge systems.

The Internship program undertook to provide technical knowledge and practice on sustainable agriculture technologies. In general, it aimed to enhance the capacities of the participants in participatory research and documentation, community development planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

At the end of the Internship program, the participants were expected to:

- ◆ Discuss the issues and trends in sustainable agriculture practices in Asia;
- ◆ Describe the basic concepts and principles of sustainable agriculture and apply the concept in developing agricultural activities;
- ◆ Demonstrate and explain sustainable agriculture practices and models;
- ◆ Understand the basics in community organizing in sustainable agriculture;
- ◆ Design sustainable agriculture training programs and conduct appropriate participatory training methods;
- ◆ Articulate sustainable agriculture policy issues and identify the different opportunities and resources available for sustainable agriculture programs and initiatives; and
- ◆ Promote/implement sustainable agriculture projects in the community.

The course proper was conducted for 20 days (inclusive of travel to the Philippines), from 06 November to 25 November 2005. It consisted of nine days of formal lecture, nine days of exposure visits to various places in Luzon and Mindanao, and one day to consolidate the training output.

The training program culminated in an action planning, where the participants agreed on the common goal of “ensuring good quality of life to modern/environmentally conscious small farmers (men and women) in Asia”.

The participants’ action plan consisted of the following components:

- ◆ Capacity building for sustainable agriculture;
- ◆ Information dissemination and management;
- ◆ Organization and networking;
- ◆ Policy reform/dialogue;
- ◆ Production enhancement;
- ◆ Marketing;
- ◆ Resource mobilization; and
- ◆ Enhancing relations among TCTP alumni.

In particular, the participants agreed to form the *Asian Alliance on Sustainable Agriculture (AASA)*, whose objectives are, among others:

- ◆ Establishment of a website (updated monthly, to include databank of experts);
- ◆ Publication of an SA journal;
- ◆ Networking and membership building;
- ◆ Holding of annual meetings and regional workshops; and
- ◆ Training and exchange visits.

*Third Country Training Program on
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“Sustainable Agriculture: A Viable Alternative for Resource-Poor Farmers”

*06 – 25 November 2005
University Hotel, UP Diliman
Quezon City, Philippines*

HIGHLIGHTS of PROCEEDINGS

Day 1, November 6

ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS

Day 2, November 7

WELCOME REMARKS

Mr. Amrik Arora, Second Secretary, Embassy of India, welcomed the participants and commended them for their commitment to eradicating poverty. He congratulated ANGO on its work, particularly on conducting the second module of the Third Country Training Program on Building Capacities of Asian NGOs in Poverty Eradication through Community Action – Sustainable Agriculture: A Viable Alternative for Resource-Poor Farmers. He affirmed his support for ANGO and its initiatives.

ANGO Chairperson Fr. Francis Lucas emphasized the urgency in addressing household food security concerns as well as promoting community-based natural resource management in the context of reducing poverty in rural areas.

“Eradicating absolute poverty is becoming the single biggest challenge of development work,” said Fr. Lucas. “The Asia-Pacific region is home to 75% of all poor people in the world, most of whom can be found in highly marginalized rural agricultural communities.”

He then pointed out that “among the many agricultural systems, sustainable agriculture (SA) practices



(From L-R): Mr. Amrik Arora, Fr. Francis Lucas, and Mr. Nathaniel Don Marquez

and technologies have the potential to effectively reduce poverty. They constitute a holistic approach to farming that is characterized by regenerative techniques inspired by indigenous systems.”

ANGO Executive Director Nathaniel Don Marquez provided a brief overview of the training course, underscoring the importance and impact of the next 20 days the work of building capacities of Asian NGOs in poverty eradication through community action.

Some of the participants then shared their expectations of the training. All of them looked forward to gaining new knowledge and to building camaraderie.

The morning session was followed by an exhibit of publications put up by the participants and by preparation of country reports.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Fr. Lucas welcomed the participants, guests, and friends to the official opening of the Training Program.

Opening Remarks. Assistant Secretary (Asec) Rey Carandang, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), acknowledged the presence of the leaders of ANGO, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) representative Ms. Salima Macahilig, Department of Agriculture (DA) Undersecretary (Usec) Segfredo Serrano, and Ms. Edith Abergas of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

He said, "I am particularly elated that both the public and private sectors of 10 Asian countries are participating in this course. It has been proven that nations cooperating towards a common goal can achieve faster and better results."

He stressed that cooperation – combined with technical information and skills – is a potent way of confronting the problems of poverty and hunger. He underscored that sharing of technical expertise is not only mutually beneficial but also facilitates the development and advancement of methods and techniques.

Asec Carandang was optimistic that "apart from strengthening relationships among countries, the training course would also contribute to the attainment of the UN Millennium Development Goal of reducing world hunger and poverty by half by the year 2015."

Finally, on behalf of Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Secretary Alberto G. Romulo, Asec Carandang thanked JICA, NEDA and ANGO for their collaborative efforts in improving capacities in eradicating poverty through community action.

Keynote Address. Usec Segfredo R. Serrano (for Policy, Planning, Research and Regulation) gave the keynote address on behalf of DA Secretary Domingo F. Panganiban. (Secretary Panganiban was out of the country.) He acknowledged the organizers of the ANGO-JICA Training Program organizers; Fr. Lucas; Mr. Marquez; Ms. Macahilig; and Asec Carandang; as well as the participants.

He called attention to Filipino farmers' indigenous (i.e., non-chemical) farming practices, which were supplanted by the introduction of chemical fertilizers and pesticides under the so-called Green Revolution. While conceding that the new farming technology initially increased the level of productivity of the farmers, he added that in the last 20 years it has caused much environmental degradation and its much heralded productivity gains have proven to be unsustainable. As a result, hunger and poverty prevail, especially in the rural areas. The Philippines' average size farm of 200-300 square meters is the smallest in Asia.

He added: "In 1960, the Philippines ranked 1st in Asia, but towards the 1980s, we tailed most of our neighboring countries. As of 2000, 48% of the rural population were poor, and 32% of children with ages five and below were malnourished. The task of achieving food security through sustainable agriculture has therefore emerged as one of the greatest challenges that we



development workers in and out of government must address together.”

Usec Serrano said that Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) is a “solution framework.” The key to SARD is technology propelled, market oriented modernization of agriculture and fisheries that is grounded on the principles of equity, sustainability and subsidiarity. “More than sustained agriculture growth, which stimulates the growth of the rural non-farm economy, there is a need to ensure that this growth is broad-based, empowering the poor of the rural areas and at the same time ensuring the sustainability of rural resources for the continued use of future generations.”

The DA’s current and future efforts are focused on increasing agricultural productivity and enhancing global competitiveness to ensure food security for the Filipino people, to increase on- and off-farm jobs, and to improve rural incomes and the quality of life of Filipino farmers and fishers while ensuring the sustainability of the resource base. DA strives to improve the access of poor farmers, fishers and indigenous peoples to knowledge-based modern technology, credit, markets, agribusiness expertise, and appropriate management systems. For example, the DA has launched *Tipid Abono*, *Agri Kalikasan* and other SARD oriented practices and programs, all of which aim to encourage farmers to substantially reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and to expand farmers’ options to include organic farming.

In closing, Usec Serrano called on civil society organizations (CSOs) to actively participate in governance. “If government does not listen, just go on and continue putting pressure on the government to act on your issues. Invite them to your activities and let them participate in the process. Eventually, they would come to appreciate your objectives, and give you their support.”

Closing Remarks. Ms. Salima Macahilig, Chief of JICA’s Human Resource Development Department, thanked the participants for taking part in the training and acknowledged the work of ANGOC as host agency. “The tireless effort and patience of ANGOC is indeed commendable,” she said.

On behalf of JICA, she thanked the participants for setting aside three weeks of their time away from work and their families to attend the training. She enjoined

everyone to “keep an open mind and share actively so that everyone will go home enriched with knowledge, skills and best of all, newfound friendship.”

Day 3, November 8

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY: PERSPECTIVES FROM NGOs AND POS

Mr. Roel Ravanera

Program Manager

*Asia-Japan Partnership Network
for Poverty Reduction*



Mr. Roel Ravanera making a presentation on perspectives from NGOs and POs on SA and food security

Mr. Roel Ravanera cited studies showing that despite new technologies, farmers remain poor due to increasing costs of external inputs, degradation of the soil, lack of access to credit and other support.

In addition, trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPs), a feature of the trade regime overseen by the World Trade Organization (WTO), have led to the privatization of agriculture technologies, including the patenting by rich corporations of traditional farming practices, indigenous knowledge, and even seeds propagated by generations of farmers.

This situation has led a growing number of farmers to turn to Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture (LEISA) and other natural approaches to farming.

For SA advocates, the challenge lies in increasing investment in sustainable agriculture, campaigning for farmers’ rights and food sovereignty, and optimizing organic markets for benefit of the rural poor.

Discussion

Organic rice is much more expensive than conventional rice notwithstanding the fact that no synthetic fertilizers or external inputs are used in producing organic rice.

This is because organic rice is new in the market and has not received sufficient promotional and marketing support from the government. In addition, production and marketing of organic rice is in its early stages. That is why it is important that the production of organic rice be expanded and that more consumers be made aware of its benefits.

There are concerns that the rice being marketed is really organic. This is where organic certification is important. Organic rice certification is a long and expensive process. In some countries like Vietnam and the Philippines, farmers can have their farming production certified through the Internal Quality Control System (IQCS).

Asian countries can work together and unify on the issue of organic certification. Developing regional standards for organic products is a good place to start.

COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS

South East Asia Panel

PHILIPPINES

Presented by Jayson Eric Astudillo, Andy Licuan and Che-che Morilla

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

- ◆ About 70% is produced by agribusiness; 21% by primary agriculture and fisheries; more than 2/3 of agribusiness is contributed by manufacturing and services;
- ◆ 14.3% - value added in agriculture (2004).

Symptoms of crisis in Philippine agriculture

- ◆ Stagnant productivity (0.4% per annum);
- ◆ Increasing agri imports and falling agri exports;

- ◆ Expensive basic commodities: e.g., food;
- ◆ Market constraints, monopolies and weak governance;
- ◆ Population grew rapidly at 2.35% over the 1990s, while rice production grew slowly at 1.9% over the 1990s;
- ◆ High cost of producing rice;
- ◆ Agricultural related rural employment down from 11.14M in 1993 to 10.8M in 2001.

SA movement and advocacies

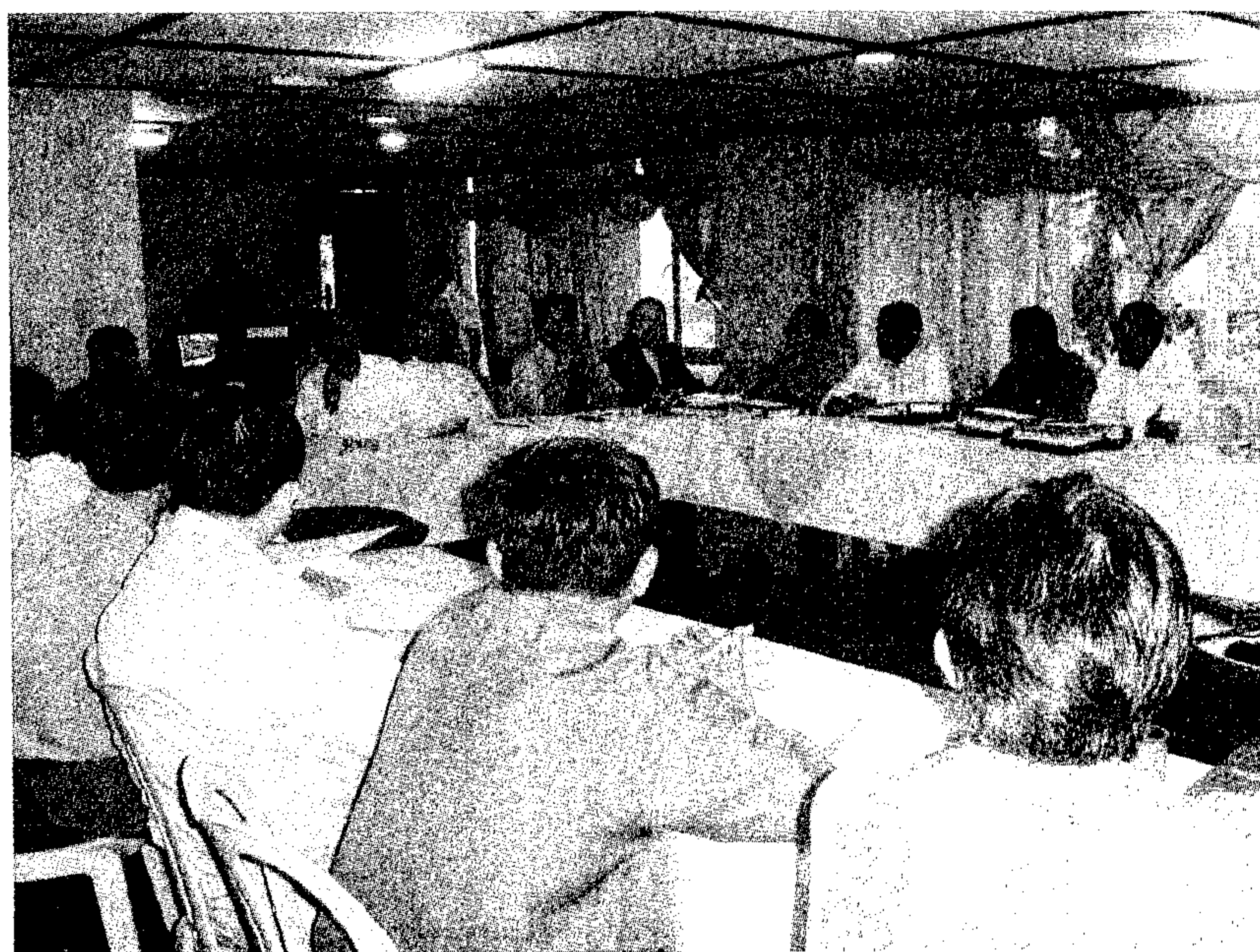
- ◆ Green revolution technologies are now considered "almost exhausted" of any further productivity gains, leaving behind a trail of negative environmental impact;
- ◆ Consumer organizations concerned about long-term effects of pesticides on food;
- ◆ Increasing cost of external inputs;
- ◆ Farmer-scientist NGO collaborations in developing alternative farm technologies and seeds;
- ◆ SA practitioners have demonstrated commercial viability of organic rice;
- ◆ Increased benefits of organic rice production to farmers;
- ◆ Increasing demand and higher prices for organic rice.

THAILAND

Presented by Sumran Sarabun and Chollasuang Polsaen

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

9% - value added in agriculture (2004)



% of population in agriculture

53.39% or 35.1 million people are in the agriculture sector

Major export goods

Textiles and footwear, fishery products, rice, rubber, jewelry, automobiles, computers and electrical appliances

National objectives for agriculture

- ◆ Stabilizing the growth of the agricultural sector;
- ◆ Restructuring production through agricultural diversification;
- ◆ Increasing free trade in agriculture and removing agricultural protection measures;
- ◆ Improving efficiency in use and conservation of agricultural natural resources and the environment;
- ◆ Improving the standard of living and quality of life in rural areas.

INDONESIA

Presented by Andi Armansyah, Wawan Ridwan and Widjoraras Wrenges

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

16.9% - value added in agriculture (2004)

% of population in agriculture

70% of the 210 million populace are in the agriculture sector.

Agrarian reform policies

No government policy to support the land reform

Policies on chemical farming

Government provides subsidy for chemical fertilizers; farmers are dependent on external agriculture inputs

Policies on sustainable agriculture

- ◆ Government has launched in 2005 a national program to revitalize the agricultural, fisheries and forestry sectors. No programs, etc., are known to be in place as yet;
- ◆ Farmers, NGOs and private sectors have started working on SA, such as organic farming.



(L-R:) Mr. Sil Vineth and Mr. In Chantha from Cambodia

Indo-China Panel

CAMBODIA

Presented by Sil Vineth, Saruth Chan and In Chantha

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

35.5 % - value added in agriculture

% of population in agriculture

80% of 13.6 million - in the agriculture sector

Rectangular Strategy

Core of the Rectangular Strategy is Good Governance; the environment for implementation consists of four elements: (1) peace, political stability and social order; (2) partnership in development with all stakeholders including private sector, CSOs, donor community; (3) favourable macroeconomic and financial environment; (4) integration of Cambodia into the region and the world.

The four strategic growth rectangles are: (1) enhancement of agricultural sector; (2) private sector development and employment generation; (3) continued rehabilitation and construction of physical infrastructure; (4) capacity building and human resource development.

VIETNAM

Presented by Havan Chuc and Vu Tiet Son

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

21.8% - value added in agriculture

% of population in agriculture

70% of 85 million people are in the agriculture sector

Exports

One of the leading exporters of rice, coffee, tea, cashew nuts, pepper, rubber. Agricultural production in 2004 – 38.5 million tons.

Poverty and Food

Poverty is clearly identified by geographic features. The proportion of households without land is highest in the South East, 43%, Mekong River Delta, 29%, Central Coast, 20%, and the Red River Delta, 14%.

The number of households without land is expected to increase because of the following reasons: (1) rapid urbanization in rural areas; (2) land appropriation by Government to set up industrial zones, (3) reversal of fortunes caused by illness, calamities, seasonal losses.

South Asia Panel

BANGLADESH

Presented by Amzad Ali and A.H.M. Kamal Prodhan

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

- ◆ 21.9% - value added in agriculture
- ◆ Average annual growth in agriculture – 4.1%;
- ◆ Agriculture's contribution to export – 5.07%.

% of population in agriculture

52% of employment provided by the agriculture sector.

Major Crops

Rice, wheat, maize, pulses, potato, tea, jute, banana, oil seed, vegetables, sugar cane.

New Policy on sustainable agriculture

- ◆ **Crop Protection:** Diversification of crop, reduction of difference in potential yield and farmers' yield, appropriate crop in appropriate place, cooperative farming and marketing.
- ◆ **Seeds:** Encouraging private sector involvement in seed production, marketing and import; enhancing private sector skills in seed preservation; seed production, seed multiplication and farm based activities will be treated as industry; private sector could import hybrid seeds in a considerable way.

- ◆ **Fertilizer:** Training, publicity material, awareness raising concerning balanced fertilizer; encouraging the use of granular urea; restricting the use of fertilizer and pesticide that are harmful to the environment; maintenance of buffer stock of fertilizer

INDIA

Presented by Rajendra Nath Reddy Sannadi

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

24% - value added in agriculture

% of population dependent on agriculture

- ◆ 1951 – 69.5%;
- ◆ 2004 – 60.0%.

Indian agriculture: Additional facts

- ◆ Provides food to more than one billion people;
- ◆ Produces 51 major crops;
- ◆ Contributes 1/6th of export earnings;
- ◆ India is one of the 12 bio-diversity centers in the world with over 46,000 species of plants and 86,000 species of animals recorded;
- ◆ India is the world's largest producer of pulses, tea and milk; second largest producer of fruits, vegetables, wheat, rice, groundnut and sugarcane.

Major crops (1999-2000)

- ◆ Rice – 89.5 million tonnes;
- ◆ Wheat – 76.5 million tonnes;
- ◆ Coarse cereals – 30.5 million tonnes;
- ◆ Pulses – 13.4 million tonnes;
- ◆ Oilseeds – 20.9 million tonnes;
- ◆ Sugarcane – 20.9 million tonnes.

Concerns/Issues

Fragmentation of land; pressure of population on land; unfavorable water management; poor infrastructure; corporate commercial agriculture; unsustainable resource use; unsustainable regional development; biotechnology promotion; farmers' suicides; land degradation and low fertility levels; depletion of water tables; low level of mechanization.

NEPAL

Presented by Gokul Gautam

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

- ◆ 41 % - value added in agriculture;
- ◆ Agriculture is main source of income; accounts for 70% of employment.



Mr. Gokul Gautam from Nepal

Facts

- ◆ Total cultivated agricultural – 21%;
- ◆ Forest area – 29%;
- ◆ Major crops – rice, maize, wheat, millet, barley;
- ◆ Food grain production increment – 2.1% per annum;
- ◆ Population growth – 2.5% ;
- ◆ Productivity of major crops has remained stagnant;
- ◆ Declining soil fertility and irreparable loss of soil and natural vegetation have caused severe land and environmental degradation.

Sustainable Agriculture

“There is a call for an operational definition of Sustainable Agriculture that gives priority to the urban and rural poor, and emerges from grassroots and not from international organizations. Food must be produced where they people are concentrated and with methods that are based on local resources, using both traditional and modern agro-ecological knowledge systems.”

Day 4, November 9

CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Fr. Francis B. Lucas

Chairperson

Asian NGO Coalition

Historical Context of Sustainable Agriculture

Fr. Lucas first reviewed the various approaches to poverty reduction - and their underlying analysis - which NGOs and development organizations have adopted over the years, as follows:

1. Welfare and Relief (starting in the 1940s)

Philosophical basis: Poverty is one's fate, God's will. It is caused by circumstances beyond a person's control.

Goal: Palliative and temporary relief.

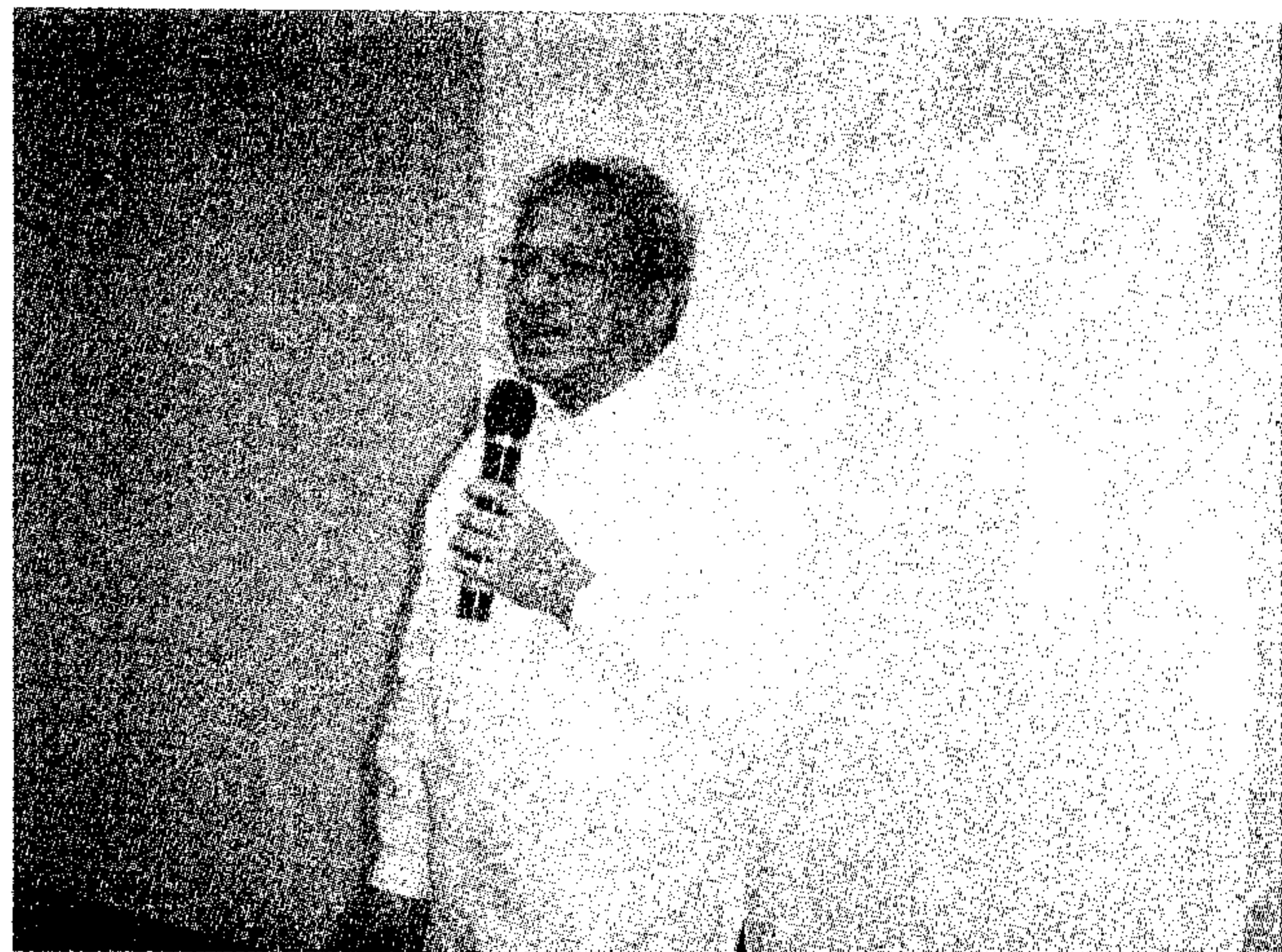
Response: Provide the basic/immediate needs of the needy.

Approach:

- ☉ Paternalistic;
- ☉ Appeals to individual, rather than communal, responsibility towards the poor;
- ☉ Provides aid for survival;
- ☉ Does not get involved with the poors' struggle to transform their situation.

Effects:

- ☉ Dependency; authoritarian structures/tendencies;
- ☉ Closed societies (not open to change or new patterns);
- ☉ Fatalism or resignation;
- ☉ Culture of silence and fear;
- ☉ Unquestioning acceptance of one's fate, i.e., the belief that the rich deserve to be rich, or that the poor are lazy, ignorant, or unlucky and so are destined to remain poor.



Fr. Lucas making a presentation on concepts and principles of SA



2. Modernism/Community Development (1960s to mid-1970s)

Philosophical basis: Poverty is caused by lack of productivity/ technology/ communal action; lack of education, income, untapped resources, lack of technology; and traditionalism.

Goal: Increase productivity by means of new technologies; subdue nature.

Response: Launch socio-economic projects for the community and promote self-help.

Approach:

- ☛ Get the community to work together;
- ☛ Build cooperatives;
- ☛ Provide resources, technology, capital;
- ☛ Technical training in agri-home industries, income generating projects;
- ☛ Integrative approach to economic development;
- ☛ "Don't rock the boat, improve on 'what is', be patient";
- ☛ Focus on projects rather than the people as subjects of development
- ☛ Maximize productivity of nature
- ☛ "Explore, exploit nature; it's fruits are there for the taking."

Effects:

- ☛ Consultative leadership;
- ☛ Symptoms are dealt with, but not the root causes;
- ☛ Prompt action to satisfy immediate needs;
- ☛ Awareness/consciousness – desire to share in

economic growth without questioning the type of growth;

- ☛ Overemphasis on technology for the sake of efficiency;
- ☛ Environmental degradation/destruction;
- ☛ Politics limited to electoral participation;
- ☛ Awareness of inequality, injustice;
- ☛ Signs of limited change;
- ☛ Conflicts between groups with different interests.

3. People-Centered Development/Spirituality of Development (1970 to date)

Philosophical basis: Poverty is caused by structures that are exploitative, oppressive and dominating.

Goal: Transform societal structures through organization and governance.

Response: Recognition and respect for people's capabilities, worth, importance, dignity; development of human powers and potential.

Approach:

- ☛ Holistic;
- ☛ Liberational;
- ☛ Participatory;
- ☛ Social awareness (bring out what is hidden);
- ☛ People's rights/responsibilities;
- ☛ Continuous integration with the poor;
- ☛ Social investigation and analysis;
- ☛ Searching for the root causes;
- ☛ Structural and social analysis;
- ☛ Building empowering structures;
- ☛ New form of education (evocative vs banking method);
- ☛ Community Based Natural Resource Management/ecosystem integration;
- ☛ Fostering human and spiritual values.

Effects:

- ☛ Participatory leadership; shared responsibility;
- ☛ Desire for self-determination;
- ☛ Reliance on one's and the group's power, as well as on friendly linkages;
- ☛ Questioning or inquisitive stance;
- ☛ Deep questioning of old values, and promoting new and better values;

- ☉ Realization that development is a continuous process of renewal and liberation, constantly guarding against new patterns of oppression and injustice;
- ☉ Models which help groups analyze and plan for group action;
- ☉ Creative development of new types of structures;
- ☉ Development of people's spiritual and cultural riches.

Scientific Basis of Sustainable Agriculture

Fr. Lucas argued that the reason sustainable agriculture has not won more adherents among the scientific community is because of the prevailing "reductionist" approach to science. The complexity of causative factors in the real world is "reduced" to one or at most a few factors which are considered to be the "cause or the dominant cause," i.e., targeting a particular insect for extermination without considering other factors within the ecosystem that may be fostering growth of insect populations, or the possibility that the way farmers are manipulating nature is predisposing them to insect attacks.

Complex reality is fragmented, broken apart conceptually. Then a fragment of that reality is hoisted as the culprit, cause, or explanation for that reality.

There are different kinds of reductionism: socio cultural, technological, economic and so on. This is overt reductionism. A more destructive reductionism exists in supporting science. This is covert reductionism, or materialism, which assumes that all natural, psychological and social reality can be fully explained by material and physical causes and processes.

In contrast, sustainable agriculture espouses Holism. Holistic science seeks to integrate what has been fragmented by reductionist science. It looks at reality and spots harmony or disharmony, disintegration or integration. It follows the ecological principle of relatedness and interdependence of all reality.

Seven Dimensions of sustainable agriculture

1. Ecologically sound

- ☉ Non-destructive of other elements or life of nature;
- ☉ Looks at the harmony of nature and its interrelationship;
- ☉ Seeks to avoid poisoning millions of farmers.

2. Socially just and Equitable

- ☉ Promotes social justice and social equity;
- ☉ Respects farmers' knowledge.

3. Economically viable

- ☉ To be economical, agriculture has to be ecological.

4. Culturally sensitive; Respectful of the knowledge base

- ☉ Respects and values indigenous systems;
- ☉ Avoids cultural displacement.

5. Founded on the use of appropriate technology

- ☉ Adopts an options approach; participatory discovery;
- ☉ Need-based and founded on analysis of nature's capacity.

6. Supportive of the awakening of the human potential

- ☉ Agricultural science conforming with realities of human nature;
- ☉ Does not reduce human beings to mere quantities and statistics;
- ☉ Allure of profit, science, power, and intellectual arrogance.

7. Based on integrative and holistic science

Guiding Principles of Sustainable Agriculture

- ☉ Food Security;
- ☉ Community Based;
- ☉ Natural Processes;
- ☉ Value of biodiversity integration and harmonious relations;
- ☉ Ecosystems integration;
- ☉ Farming systems approach.



Farming Systems

Fr. Lucas said that farming systems should be guided by the abovementioned dimensions and guiding principles. This effectively eliminates monocropping as an option.

Farmer/scientist research on the different potentials of the renewable use of every square inch of resource should be explored in an integrative process: crop diversification, rotation, integrative farming—crops, livestock, fishery.

He added that sustainable farming systems embody many elements of sustainability that make them suitable tools for reducing poverty:

- Long-term commitment to soil fertility, particularly addressing soil erosion and degradation or desertification;
- Reduction of external energy consumption and water requirements;
- Knowledge-intensive rather than capital- and resource-intensive; coupling traditional knowledge with modern methods such as bio-controls and efficient nutrient management; bio dynamic, agro ecological technology;
- Integration of traditional knowledge, joint problem solving, and farmer to farmer exchange can improve community relations and lead to greater involvement and commitment of producers.

He then pointed out the potential of organic production-- a fast-growing sector, comprising a USD 27 billion segment of the food industry. Poor farmers with limited natural resources are left with no alternative but to make productive use of their natural resource. The philosophy, science, value systems, dimensions and guiding principles of SA can form the basis for ensuring world food security and the authentic development of peoples.

Participants on a field visit to Manila Seedling Bank

Day 4, November 9 (afternoon)

FIELD VISIT 1: MANILA SEEDLING BANK

The first field visit for the TCTP-SA participants was to the Manila Seedling Bank, located on EDSA/Quezon Avenue, Quezon City. The Manila Seedling Bank Foundation, Inc. (MSBF), an environmental non-government organization was founded in 1977. As a seedling producer, it has grown to an organization with diversified operations, but dealing mainly with environmental causes.

Participants questioned MSBF staff on how the Foundation sustains its operations and were told that the seedling bank earns enough to pay for itself.

Day 5, November 10

EMERGING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING SA PROPONENTS

Dr. Julian Gonsalves

Dr. Julian Gonsalves started by getting the participants to talk about the challenges which they or their organizations have encountered in their practice of SA.

The following is Dr. Gonsalves' synthesis of the participants' inputs.



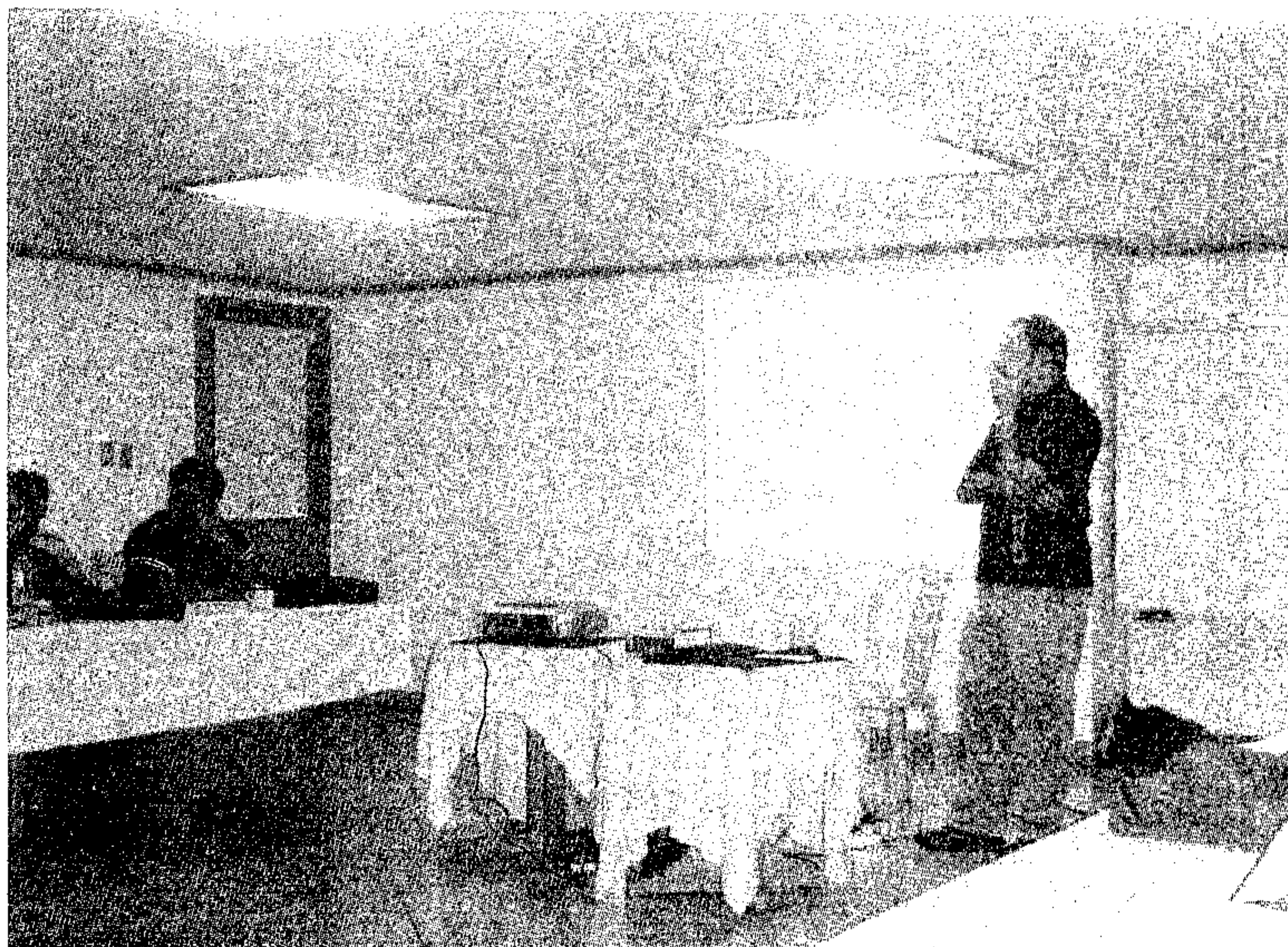
Challenges

1. Globalization: a more recent phenomenon affecting opportunities for SA and the future of small family farms.
2. The basic issue today is centered on whether we consider agriculture as just a business or whether we recognize it as a major livelihood source.
3. Agricultural imports are being liberalized in most countries (due to WTO regulation, requirements, funding agency pressures, etc). Farmers can't compete with cheap imports. And this kind of trade is not free and fair as third world farmers are expected to compete with farmers in advanced countries where subsidy prevails.

4. Removal of agricultural subsidies in developing countries as a result of pressure from donors (structural adjustment policies included) without doing anything significant to reduce the subsidy on agriculture that still continues in the USA, Europe, Japan, etc.

In fact the subsidy in these advance countries *has increased and continues to increase. It's now nearly 1 billion dollars a year.*

5. Migration of farm workers and farm family members is a major issue today. In some countries women migrate, in others the males do. In some cases, the migration lasts for a few years; in other cases, it is seasonal. There are also merely domestic movements as well as international, transboundary ones.
6. Today, farmers are having to deal with an agriculture that is increasingly agriculture-business-oriented (input supply companies are consolidating and merging and taking control of the chain or operations; small farmers are shifting operations to undertake contract farming for big companies).
7. Agriculture is more vulnerable today than at any point in history. Today's agriculture is also susceptible to climate, economic policies, etc. Some countries deal with such diverse conditions as drought followed by floods. Such cycles were previously unheard of.



Dr. Julian Gonsalves presenting his synthesis of workshop outputs

Climate change is one major new UNPREDICTABLE factor for farmers today.

8. Access to land and other assets is increasingly being challenged. Conflict arises as a result. Equity and access are key sustainable agriculture factors but are often not acknowledged enough by SA practitioners.
9. The opportunities for intellectual property rights have driven scientists to assume profit-oriented positions. As a result, scientific decisions might be made that are dictated by this agenda for profit. For instance, choices are made in favor of hybrids, genetically modified crops as opposed to open pollinated options.
10. Ironically, the acknowledgement of the harmful effects of chemicals (pesticides) is driving scientists to develop genetically engineered crops with in-built insect resistance.
11. Degradation of the agriculture resource base and associated natural resources has driven an effort to manage natural resources in a sustainable manner (sustainable land management and community based natural resources management).

Opportunities for SA

1. Agriculture is still a "primary industry." Agriculture is still important, especially to poor people.

Having a pro-poor orientation allows us to focus on vulnerable populations for whom agriculture is important.

2. Targeting is important (less favored areas, ethnic groups, the landless, etc.).

3. Agriculture has multiple functions, not just food production. This needs to be valued. There are environmental services generated by sound agriculture.

4. Access to land and common property resources is increasingly recognized by stakeholders. Rights-based approaches are valued by bilateral and multilateral donors.

5. Integrated systems that are characteristic of SA are not always scale-neutral. So the poor can take advantage of such forms of SA.

6. Biodiversity is valued. In fact, the approach to conserving biodiversity by promoting sustainable use is a relatively new approach that allows us to address both the livelihood and conservation agenda.

7. The demand for local foods has driven an effort to conserve local food traditions and associated crops and varieties.

8. Local markets are not tapped enough by SA proponents, and an export orientation that now prevails should be balanced with an approach to better utilize local markets.

9. Consumers are now increasingly quality conscious and so SA must deliver on the quality criteria.

Discussion

Challenges and Opportunities in SA

Advocacy

- ☛ In Pakistan, many NGOs and organizations do not understand SA. Much remains to be done to increase the level of awareness on SA;
- ☛ The Department of Agriculture continues to promote the use of agrochemicals. Hence, SA advocacy should target the DA.

Lack of government support

- ☛ In Vietnam, the Government is more concerned with opening up the economy to foreigners rather than supporting its farmers.

GATT-WTO

- ☛ Many farmers feel inadequate to deal with “changes” wrought by globalization;
- ☛ The overall effect of globalization has been to put developing country farmers at a disadvantage;

☛ Barriers to the entry of agricultural imports are coming down in every country;

☛ “Free” trade is not “fair”; the more developed countries are exploiting the weaknesses of developing countries in regard to competitiveness and quality—a result of inadequate government support. The US and other developed countries spend an average of USD 1 billion a year on agricultural subsidies. Put another way, the EU spends per farmer per year, USD 16,000, the US, USD 20,000, and Japan, USD 23,000;

☛ Developing countries cannot match such spending. But some of them have found ways to hit back at developed countries. India, for in-



stance, did not import milk for many years, depending instead on Bombai to produce its dairy needs.

Increased vulnerability of farming

- ☛ Farmers used to be guided by the traditional planting calendar. Today, climatic changes are rendering planting schedules highly irregular. India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the Philippines are all afflicted by typhoons and flashfloods.

SA as a conflict resolution mechanism

- ☛ SA also addresses questions of access to land, water and credit, from which conflicts frequently arise;
- ☛ SA as strategy should be thought of in the context of poor farmers. It should be developed as a pro-poor approach.

AN OVERVIEW OF SA APPROACHES AND PRINCIPLES

Mr. Carlos S. Basilio

CIP-UPWARD, International Potato Center

Mr. Carlos Basilio presented seven models of Sustainable Agriculture, as follows:

- ☛ Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture (LEISA);
- ☛ Resource Efficient Agricultural Production (REAP);
- ☛ Organic Agriculture (OA);
- ☛ Bio-dynamic Farming (BDF);
- ☛ Permaculture;
- ☛ Nature Farming (NF);
- ☛ Natural Farming (NaF).

The following points characterize the seven models:

LEISA

- ☛ Optimal use of local resources;
- ☛ Exploitation of natural/ecological processes;
- ☛ Minimum dependence on external inputs.

REAP

- ☛ Ecological resource management;
- ☛ Sound community organizing;



Mr. Carlos Basilio giving an overview of SA approaches and principles

- ☛ Creation of integrated and ecological food and energy production systems.

Organic Agriculture

- ☛ Excludes use of chemical fertilizers, growth regulators, pesticides, feed additives, genetically engineered products.

Biodynamic Farming

- ☛ Harnesses the creative forces of nature and the cosmos;
- ☛ Ecology + formative life forces;
- ☛ Food with chemicals deplete life forces.

Permaculture

- ☛ Proper combination of the quality of plants and animals with natural characteristics of landscapes and structures.

Nature Farming

- ☛ Conserving ecosystem by conforming with laws of nature;
- ☛ Respect for the soil.

Natural Farming

- ☛ Emphasizes the spiritual health of the individual to practical and beneficial transformation of the world.

Discussion

Shifting to SA involves a conversion process (technical agriculture), from less to more sustainable.

Rice may be grown without chemicals, but if it is monocropped it becomes less sustainable.

The seven models can be ranked in the order of most sustainable to least sustainable, as follows:

1. Natural farming
2. Nature farming
3. Permaculture
4. Biodynamic Farming (BDF)
5. Organic Agriculture
6. REAP
7. LEISA.

SA is location-specific. Farmers can adapt its practice to their particular conditions.

BIODYNAMIC FARMING

Dr. Pamela Fernandez

University of the Philippines Los Baños

Dr. Fernandez's presentation started with a discussion of the principles of **anthroposophy**. Also called *spiritual science* by its founder, Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925), anthroposophy is a spiritual philosophy and approach to investigating non-physical levels of, and influences on, reality.

The word anthroposophy is derived from the Greek words meaning man-wisdom. Anthroposophy encourages clear and free thought, and the development of human consciousness beyond the material senses. The anthroposophist's way could be said to go through becoming more conscious and deliberate about one's thoughts and deeds, but also by becoming more perceptive of and in tune with the spirit in himself and outside of himself. One may reach higher levels of consciousness through meditation and observation.

Steiner's description of the human being as consisting of seven intimately connected parts, starting at the material level and reaching up into the spiritual levels. Anthroposophists however also hold a fourfold view, which Steiner expanded on very frequently and put to practical uses in subjects such as medicine and child education:

- ☉the physical body;
- ☉the etheric body;
- ☉the astral body; and
- ☉the ego or "I" of the human being.



Dr. Pamela Fernandez making a presentation on biodynamic farming

An application of the principles of anthroposophy is Biodynamic Agriculture.

Biodynamic agriculture, or **Biodynamics**, comprises an ecological and sustainable system of agricultural production, particularly of food for humans that claims to respect all creation. Steiner believed that the introduction of chemical farming was a major problem. He found that seeds had dramatically less vitality and that land that previously grew the same crops year after year now had to rotate crops in order to avoid problems. Plants which formerly gathered their own nutrients and minerals from the earth now had become dependant on the dead chemical fertilizers for their minerals and as humans ate these weak plants they also lost their will. The term "biologically dynamic" or "biodynamic" was however not invented by Steiner, but by his adherents. It includes many of the ideas of organic farming (but predates the term) and has as a core focus mystical anthroposophical ideas of the soil and the life on and in it as a living, sentient system.

Steiner was convinced that the food in his society was degrading, and he believed the source of the problem was artificial fertilizers and pesticides, however he did not believe this was because of chemical or biological properties relating to the substances involved, but for *spiritual* shortcomings in these substances. Steiner considered the world and everything living in it as primarily spiritual in nature, the physical and thus chemical or biological processes involved were sec-

ondary. He also believed that living matter was different from dead matter, a viewpoint commonly referred to as vitalism. Many of Steiner's writings describe energy flows radiated from the earth akin to the so-called Odic force.

Another aspect of the idea is that the farm as a whole is a living system, and therefore should be a closed self-nourishing system, which the preparations nourish. Disease of organisms is not to be tackled in isolation but is a symptom of problems in the whole organism.

Day 6, November 11

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SOIL MANAGEMENT

Patrick M. Rocamora

Soils and Agro-Ecosystems Division

Agricultural Systems Cluster

College of Agriculture

University of the Philippines Los Baños

Mr. Patrick Rocamora provided introductory, technical information on: (1) soil composition; (2) soil functions; and (3) three techniques used to measure soil quality.

He thereafter cited an experiment showing the effects of organic and inorganic fertilizers on the soil after a number of croppings in an upland setting. He said that the micronutrient dynamics was not affected substantially whether the added fertilizer was inorganic, organic, or combination of organic and inorganic. However, among the micronutrients studied, boron (B) has a greater tendency than the rest to accumulate in the soil with continuous cropping. The experiment



also revealed that as an organic source of micronutrients, chicken manure is generally better than azolla compost [a type of compost made of mosquito fern, which is renowned for its nitrogen-fixing capacity].

Mr. Rocamora then launched into a discussion of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), which refers to the combined use of organic and inorganic inputs accompanied by sound cultural practices in crop production. INM draws from three sources of nutrients:

- ☉ Soil sources (16 essential nutrients);
- ☉ Biological sources (BNF, mycorrhizal, organic manure, green manure and bio-organics);
- ☉ Chemical sources (inorganic fertilizers).

He encouraged the use of compost as it "improves the movement of water, dissolved nutrients, and oxygen through the soil, making it easier for plant roots to absorb these vital substances."

WATER MANAGEMENT

Samuel M. Contreras

Chief Agriculturist

Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Soils and Water Management

Mr. Samuel Contreras called attention to a number of trends indicating a crisis in water resources in Asia:

- ☉ Renewable freshwater supplies are becoming scarce, increasingly polluted, and expensive;
- ☉ As a country develops, the water requirement of industry enlarges while the water requirement of agriculture correspondingly shrinks;
- ☉ Agriculture claims the biggest share of available freshwater. Producing a single person's daily food requires some 5,000 liters of water;
- ☉ Rice cultivation requires much water: about 2,000 – 3,000 liters per kilogram of rice. In Asia, 50% of water usage goes on rice production. Two million hectares of irrigated dry season rice and 13 million hectares of irrigated wet-season rice in Asia will experience "physical water scarcity" (i.e., decreasing river flows) by 2025;
- ☉ Meanwhile, most of the 22 million hectares of irrigated-dry season rice in South and Southeast Asia will suffer "economic water scarcity" (e.g., lack of sufficient financial resource for water infrastructure).

The issue, said Mr. Contreras, is how to ensure that shallow groundwater resources will be protected from



Mr. Samuel Contreras making a presentation on water management

the problems associated with unsustainable use. There is therefore a need to formulate policies and develop management options before the resource becomes over-committed.

He further argued that "the period of rapid expansion of irrigated agriculture has ended. It is now time to concentrate on the full management of water resources, which are becoming increasingly scarce, to make it more sustainable.

Mr. Contreras cited a number of farmer initiated technologies aimed at conserving soil and water. These involve the use of: (1) planted vegetative strips; (2) natural vegetative strips; (3) vetiver grass technology; and (4) multistorey cropping.

He recommended a number of changes to the way water is currently being managed, as follows:

- ☉ In terms of water source/structure
 - ◆ From storage dam to diversion dam
 - ◆ From deep well to shallow tube well;
- ☉ In terms of water management
 - ◆ From a national irrigation system (under the NIA) to a communal irrigation system (managed by the community);
- ☉ In terms of type of irrigation system
 - ◆ Towards small scale irrigation system that is community- or individually managed, e.g., small diversion dam, shallow tubewell, small farm reservoir;
- ☉ In terms of irrigation methods

- ◆ From surface irrigation methods, through which water is applied via surface ditches and canals (and wastes 35-50% of water applied) to a system where water is conveyed/distributed through small flexible pipes.

Mr. Contreras cited other alternatives to surface irrigation methods, as follows:

1. Pressurized irrigation for high value crops

- ☉ Overhead irrigation – water is applied in form of spray, simulating rain. Nominal discharge of 40 lph – 20 m³/hr.
 - ◆ Water flows under pressure through a nozzle;
 - ◆ Highly efficient as water is conveyed through a pipe system;
 - ◆ Operates well on steep slopes and erodible soils, and undulating land too costly to level;
 - ◆ Allows lesser interference with farming operations.
- ☉ Localized irrigation (drip irrigation) – water is applied by wetting only a part of the soil in the field through emitter.
 - ◆ Highly efficient as water is conveyed through a pipe system;
 - ◆ Water is applied directly to each plant such that only the soil near each plant is wetted;
 - ◆ Facilitates fertigation and thus, could increase yield by 20% to 70%;
 - ◆ Suitable in steep and undulating slopes, and sandy soils.

Mr. Contreras related a few practices aimed at water management and findings from such are as follows:

1. Improving agronomic management (e.g., crop and nutrient management)

The adoption of Balanced Fertilization Strategy (i.e. appropriate combination of organic and inorganic fertilizers) together with the proper soil analysis and soil management practices has resulted an average incremental rice yield increase of about 34% (i.e. from 4.74 MT/ha to 6.35MT/ha) in 35 techno demo farm sites in the Philippines.

2. Changing planting practices

In Central Luzon, Philippines, it was found out that wet-seeded rice (WSR) system used 1,747 mm compared with 2,195 mm for transplanted rice (*Bhuiyan, Sattar and Khan, 1995*);

For similar change to direct seeding (WSR), the reduction in water use was from 1,836 mm to 1,333 mm (Fujii and Cho, 1996)

3. Reducing water use in the crop growth period

Maintaining a saturated soil or practicing alternate wetting and drying after flowering stage, compared with continuous shallow submergence, could reduce water applications by 40% to 70% without significant loss in yield (Hatta, 1967; Tabbal, Lampayan, and Bhuiyan, 1992; Singh, et. al., 1996)

4. Making more effective use of rainfall

Water released from storage systems must be managed in the wet season to reduce irrigation inflow requirements and take full advantage of rainfall. Farmers should adjust planting schedules and water masters/irrigation administrators must provide timely release. In Sri Lanka, projects such as Kadullah Irrigation Scheme (Bird et. al., 1991) and Walamgabuhuwa Minor Tank Settlement Scheme (Upasena, Sikurajapathy and Seneviratna, 1980) reported initial success of this scheme.

5. Water distribution strategies

The primary aim is to solve the familiar "head-tail" problems in many irrigation systems. During dry seasons, it is difficult to achieve an even distribution of water over the upper, middle and lower reaches of system with rotation. Failure is due to the lack of communication or cooperation between irrigation agencies and the farmers and among farmers themselves.

6. Water re-cycling and conjunctive use

Surface runoff (SRO) and seepage and percolation may be re-used or recycled (RCL) downstream. This is the case in Maasin SWIP in Talugtog, Nueva Ecija in which surface runoff from the system's service area is being tapped by farmers further downstream by pumping from the nearby creek. Water from the shallow aquifers are also being utilized through STW either for domestic or agricultural purposes. This scheme increases water productivity in the basin.

ECOLOGICAL PEST MANAGEMENT AS AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Santiago A. Palizada

Agriculturist II

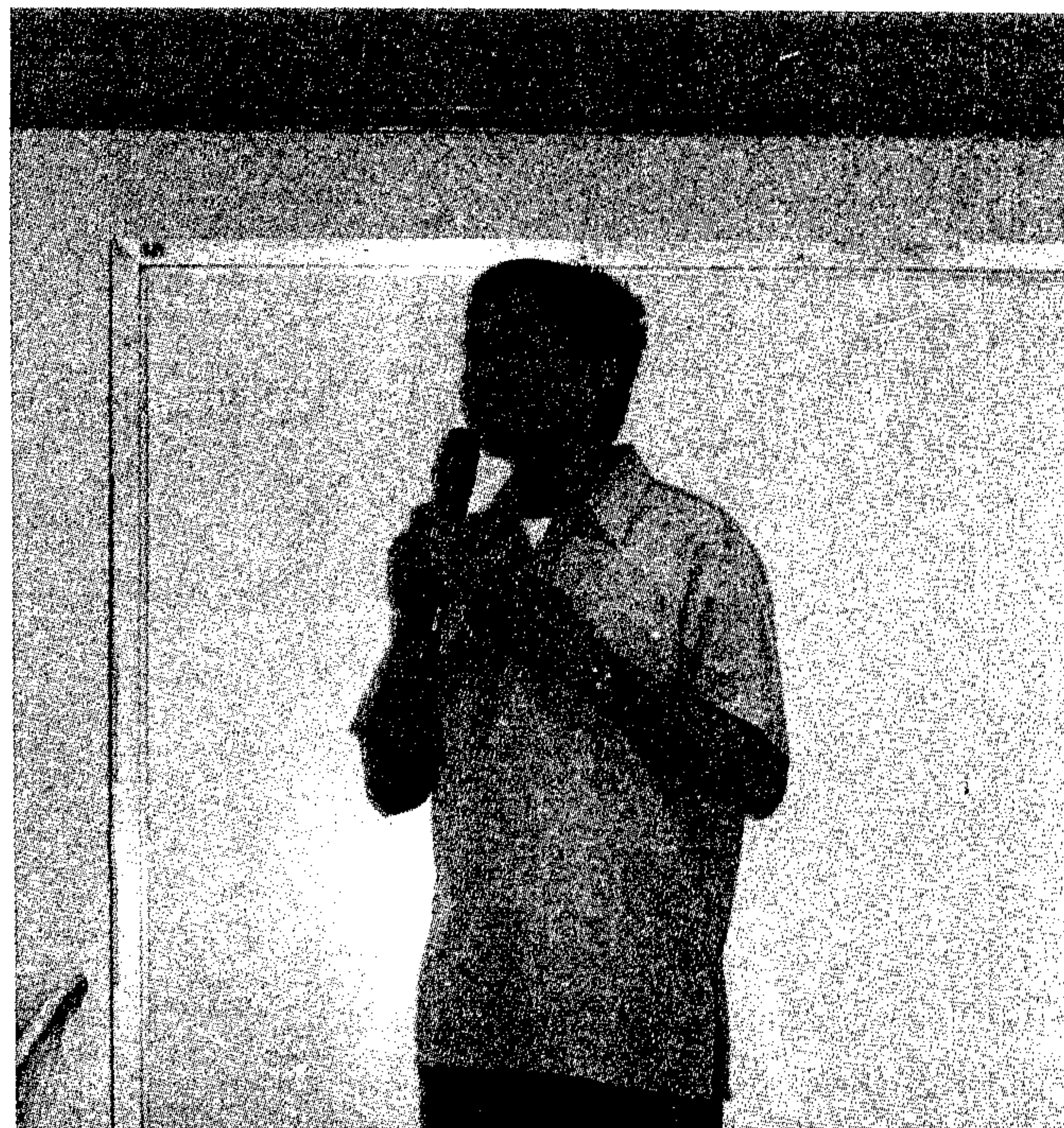
Crop Production Division

DA -Bureau of Plant Industry

Mr. Santiago Palizada offered the definition of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) contained in the *FAO International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides-Article II*: "[A] pest management system that, in the context of the associated of the associated environment and the population dynamics of pest species, utilizes all suitable techniques and methods in as compatible a manner as possible and maintains the pest populations at levels below those causing economically unacceptable damage or loss."

He explained that pest infestation results from:

- Expansion of large areas of production (monoculture), which disturbs the natural balance and creates artificial conditions;
- Multiplication of pest and spread (abundant food and ease of migration);
- Indiscriminate use of pesticides which destroys natural enemies and enhances development of resistance;



Mr. Santiago Palizada, making a presentation on ecological pest

- Mismanagement of the agro-ecosystem;
- Laxity in quarantine regulation.

The implementation of IPM involves action in the following areas:

- Monitoring;
- Crop protection;
- Energy efficiency;
- Waste and pollution management;

- ☉ Soil management;
- ☉ Wildlife and landscape management;
- ☉ Crop nutrition;
- ☉ Crop rotation.

The basic components of an IPM program are:

- ☉ Prevention (Indirect measures);
- ☉ Observation (Decision tools);
 - ‡ Crop monitoring
 - ‡ Decision support systems
 - ‡ Area-wide management
- ☉ Intervention (Direct measures)
 - ‡ Cultural and physical control
 - ‡ Biological control
 - ‡ Chemical control
 - ‡ Cultural and physical control.

IPM technology provided by industry consists of:

- ☉ Research and development;
- ☉ Disease control;
 - ‡ Fungicide technology
 - ‡ Diagnostics
- ☉ Insect control;
 - ‡ Insecticide technology
 - ‡ Use of pheromones
 - ‡ New modes of action
 - ‡ Band treatment
- ☉ Weed control;
 - ‡ Herbicide technology
 - ‡ Band treatment
 - ‡ Weed control in conservation areas
- ☉ Erosion control
 - ‡ Conversion tillage techniques: direct drilling, no-till, minimum tillage
 - ‡ Cover crop management.

The problem with this approach to IPM is that:

- ☉ Knowledge remains at the level of researchers and does not reach farm level where it is needed;
- ☉ Research has become isolated from the real needs of farmers;
- ☉ Particular problems involving specific crops are addressed in terms of blanket recommendations;
- ☉ Oftentimes, farmers grow several crops with a complex problem in a specific area;
- ☉ Extension of technology is “top-down,” message-based, without paying attention to ecological principles behind recommendations.

On the other hand, Farmer Participatory Training (FPT) in a so-called ‘Farmer Field School (FFS)’ offers an alternative to industry provided IPM. Under FPT:

- ☉ Farmers learn how to make and record detailed observations, conduct simple experiments and interpret the result findings;
- ☉ Farmers are empowered with the understanding of the agro-ecology of their own farms.

The FFS Methodology has the following features:

- ☉ Based on agro-ecosystems Analysis (AESA) which involves regular (usually weekly) observations of the crop;
- ☉ Participants learn how to make and record detailed observations:
 - ‡ Growth stage of the crop
 - ‡ Numbers of insect pests and beneficials, and weed and diseases levels
 - ‡ Weather conditions
 - ‡ Soil condition
 - ‡ Overall plant health
- ☉ Farmers conduct exercises in comparing AESA, fields are managed using IPM systems;
- ☉ At the end of the season, farmers record yields and calculate input costs and profit margins;
- ☉ Extension workers are trained in the Training of Trainers (TOT) to effectively prepare farmers to take on the task of trainers or facilitators.

Day 7, November 12

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Fr. Francis B. Lucas

Chairperson

Asian NGO Coalition, and

Mr. Oscar Catilo

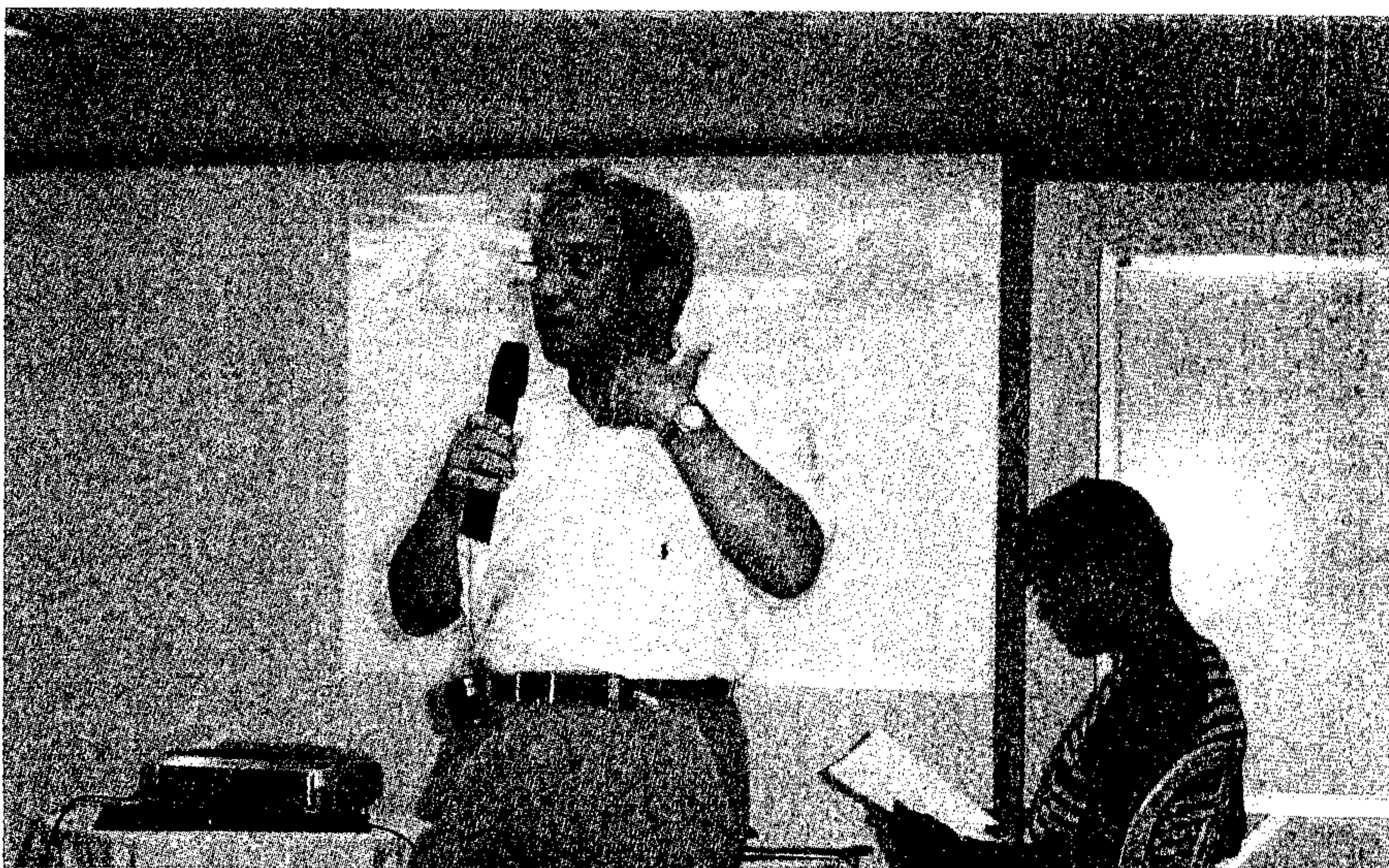
Infanta Integrated Community Development Assistance, Inc. (ICDAI)

As an introduction to their presentation, Fr. Lucas conducted an exercise at which the participants were asked to answer the following questions:

1. What is your understanding of community organizing (CO)?
2. What do you think is the purpose of CO?
3. What are your experiences with regards community organizing, if any?

The following were the answers of the participants as far as their “Understanding of CO” and perceived “Purpose of CO” are concerned:

- ☞ Living, discussing, and working with, and for, the people in the community;
- ☞ Sharing things to strengthen the capacities – community, SA work;
- ☞ Working together;
- ☞ Organized around common problem;
- ☞ Collectively looking for and assessing solutions;
- ☞ Gathering of people for a specific purpose;
- ☞ Small/informal group with a common interest;
- ☞ Same geographical setting;
- ☞ Strengthening capacities for SA;
- ☞ Common objectives/purpose and interests;
- ☞ Empowerment of the people;
- ☞ Overcome problems;
- ☞ Uplift living standards through SA and environmental protection;
- ☞ Discuss and find good ideas;
- ☞ Build capacity;
- ☞ Needs assessment;
- ☞ Solve their problems;
- ☞ Prioritize problems;
- ☞ Helps the community in articulating, processing;
- ☞ Tools to implement projects.



‘take charge’ of their situation and thus develop a sense of being a community together. Community organizers are mere catalysts and facilitators. CO is a particularly effective tool in the hands of the poor and powerless as they become self confident in being able to decide on the direction of their lives and determine for themselves the actions they will take to deal with the essential forces that are destroying their persons and community and consequently causing them to be dependent and powerless.”

Aims and Goals of CO: Towards Social Transformation

The goals of CO are people-oriented, as it values the dignity of the individual person. It aims to leverage power for the benefit of farmers in their collective efforts to effect changes. It strives to transform society for the better by opening up new opportunities. However, before social transformation can take place, a critical mass is necessary to push forward new and alternative structures and institutions. Yet, even more important than changing social structures is changing structures of the mind.

The Role of Community Organizers

Community organizers take on the role of:

- ☞ Catalyst (as CO is a creative endeavor and uses processes that have been fully internalized by the poor);
- ☞ Role model;
- ☞ Witness in word and deed.

Discussion

- ☞ People’s organizations (POs) usually follow the lead of NGOs. Thus, when the NGO leaves, the PO is left hanging;
- ☞ Not all NGOs use Community Organizing;
- ☞ CO develops the “concretist” viewpoint, which focuses on material evidence, actual situations, experience, practice, and devices;
- ☞ “Theory without practice is meaningless” and “practice without theory is useless”;
- ☞ CO as a method is participatory, experiential; a progressive cycle of action - evaluation- reflection – action;
- ☞ “Start where the people are: don’t pre-suppose!”

Fr. Lucas then began his presentation by defining CO as “the continuous process of empowering transformation by which the people organize themselves to

COs however should never try to be the hero or the liberator.

Ten Steps to Building Farmers' Organizations

Fr. Lucas then identified 10 steps to building farmers' organizations, along with their attendant activities or requirements, as follows:

Step 1. Integration - process of becoming one with the people and "knowing" the community

In the process of integration, certain things should happen to the organizer. He/she should:

- ☉ Respect the farmers;
- ☉ Identify the liberating aspects of the community's culture;
- ☉ Recognize that reality is more dense and complicated than it seems;
- ☉ Be accepted as a member of the community;
- ☉ Live by the organizer's values and lifestyle.

Step 2. Social Investigation or Environmental Scan - process of systematically finding out and analyzing the situation, e.g., identifying impediments to development around which to organize and mobilize people towards a clear, concrete and achievable goal

- ☉ Identify issues with the people that they feel strongly about, are interested in and are willing to act on. But take it one at a time.

Step 3. Tentative Program - a plan of action based on step 2.

Step 4. Ground Work - going around and motivating, discovering, befriending, inspiring people on a one-to-one basis, while spotting potential leaders to help the movement.

Step 5. The Meeting

- ☉ At the general meeting, the people collectively ratify what they have already decided individually;
- ☉ The people develop a sense of collective power and confidence, discovering they are not alone and that their number counts.

Step 6. Role Play - acting out a meeting, an activity, or an advocacy

- ☉ Involves internalization, emotions, knowledge and personal dignity enhancement;
- ☉ Helps people discover they can do what they never thought they could.

Step 7. Mobilization or Action - the actual and most crucial activity; an exercise of people's self-confidence and internal strength.

Step 8. Evaluation - sitting down and collectively reviewing what happened, good and bad, at steps 1 to 7. The action, is the raw material for the evaluation.

Step 9. Reflection - following the action process, insights on the gains are drawn.

- ☉ Values sacrifice, community building, the role of leaders and authority, the nature of freedom and democracy, sense of volunteerism for community;
- ☉ Provides spiritual strength as persons in a community.

Step 10. The Organization

The Farmer's Organization is the result of many successive and similar actions of the people. It has the following attributes:

- ☉ An organization of smaller organizations, not individuals;
- ☉ Has an internal structure which enables people to participate;
- ☉ Is deliberate, providing for a system of checks and balances;
- ☉ Concerned with multiple issues at any given time, but focuses on one issue at a time;
- ☉ Is in constant action. Action is the life blood of an organization;
- ☉ Is serious. It is out to achieve a goal;
- ☉ Chooses tactics which are effective;
- ☉ Is visible and controversial;
- ☉ Projects an image of capability and credibility;
- ☉ Constantly produces new leaders;
- ☉ The people, with their leaders, think and operate in terms of increasing their power so as to promote their self-interest;
- ☉ Makes partisan political alliances very deliberately;
- ☉ Raises funds from among the people;
- ☉ Creates an impact beyond its immediate concerns and areas;
- ☉ Produces concrete betterment of the community in terms of alleviating poverty.

CONTINUATION OF COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS

CHINA

Presented by Lin Mao

Contribution of agriculture to GDP

14.6 % - value added in agriculture.

% of population in agriculture

Out of 1.3 billion, 800 million are in agriculture.

Problems facing Chinese agriculture

- ◆ Low per capita acreage of farmland, and the trend of decreasing per capita availability of such resources;
- ◆ Economy in rural areas less developed; rural population growing rapidly and educational resources inadequate;
- ◆ Low aggregate agricultural productivity;
- ◆ Pollution of agricultural environment.

Village and Township Enterprises (VTEs)

- ◆ Since 1979, VTEs have undergone rapid development. The total industrial output was about 30% of the national gross industrial output;
- ◆ Development of VTEs has given impetus to rural development, especially with respect to the formation and development of village and township centers;
- ◆ VTEs face a variety of problems such as lack of development plans, being badly equipped, backward production procedures, poor management. A result is waste of resources and damage to the environment.

PAKISTAN

Presented by Tariq Javed and Dr. Sajida Latif

Contribution of agriculture to the economy

- ◆ 24% - value added in agriculture;
- ◆ Approximately 70% of Pakistan's foreign exchange earnings come from the sale of agricultural products;
- ◆ 70% of population depends on agriculture;
- ◆ Government figures show that average growth in the agricultural sector during the past five years has been 4.6% per annum. In 1998, a growth rate of 5.9% was a major contributor to the overall GDP growth rate of 5.4%.

TOUR OF LA MESA DAM ECO PARK & PARTICIPATION IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS FESTIVAL (QUEZON CITY)

The La Mesa Dam Eco Park is located beside La Mesa Dam, the water reservoir that serves the population of Metro Manila. A Family Wellness Festival showcased the different activities, products and organic agriculture. Featured products included organic rice, organic muscovado (brown/raw sugar), virgin coconut oil, teas, herbs, sea salt, tablea (cocoa), passion fruit-guyabano juice, and vinegar. Free range chicken and eggs, as well as fresh organic yacon from Misamis Oriental, were also sold.



Day 8, November 13

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SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETING

Ms. Lani Katimbang-Limpin

Organic Certification Council of the Philippines (OCCP)

Commercial vs. Social Marketing

Ms. Lani Limpin sought to make a distinction between "commercial marketing" and "social marketing."

Commercial marketing works best in the case of products that have a clear and strong identity, and whose benefits are immediately discernible. Commercial marketing is motivated by profit, and is adjudged successful or effective if the product achieves a market share of 2 to 3%. This type of marketing applies standard selling formulae and is targeted at people with high purchasing power.

On the other hand, *social marketing* involves the design, implementation and control of programs aimed at increasing the acceptability of a social idea or practice in one or more groups of target adopters (Kotler and Roberto, 1989). It requires a complex strategy, as social products are “less immediately satisfying,” and, in fact, sometimes seek to promote avoidance behavior. Their major selling points are therefore the abstract values attached to the products. Social marketing is not motivated by profit, although to be considered successful, it has to attain market shares of 20 to 30%. It is frequently aimed at the poorest or less educated communities.

Some examples of social products are:

- ☉ Health – contraceptives, natural food;
- ☉ Marketing – alternative trading and marketing;
- ☉ Agriculture – natural or nature farming, sustainable agriculture, organic farming;
- ☉ Women – reproductive rights, human rights.

The Elements of Marketing

Marketing, whether commercial or social, is a “mix” of the following factors:

1. Product

It is the behavior or offering you want the target audience to adopt.

- ☉ Tangible products – contraceptives, oral rehydration solution, organic food;
- ☉ Practice – vaccinate children, avoid smoking and casual sex, fair trade;
- ☉ Idea – family planning, human rights/equality.

Standardization and Certification

- ☉ Management standard (example: Good Agricultural Practices, Organic Agriculture Standards);
- ☉ Commodity standard (example: rice standard, sugar standard, Codex alimentarius);
- ☉ Certification from the Bureau of Food (especially if the product is processed).

Packaging and Labeling

- ☉ Types of packaging materials
 - ◆ Bottles;
 - ◆ Plastic;
 - ◆ Cans;
 - ◆ Paper.

Basic Labeling Requirements

- ☉ Product identity or name;
- ☉ Name and address of manufacturer;
- ☉ List of ingredients;
- ☉ Expiry date;
- ☉ Weight of products;
- ☉ Batch and lot numbers;
- ☉ If exported (country of origin).

2. Price

Refers to what the target audience has to give up to buy the product or adopt the behavior.

Price could be monetary but in social marketing it involves intangibles such as time, effort, old habits and emotions.

- ☉ Monetary – cost of subsidized products social cost;
- ☉ Opportunity – time lost from other activities, missed opportunity if innovation is not beneficial;
- ☉ Psychological and physical – stress in giving up smoking, effort involved in obtaining clean water.

Considerations in Pricing

- ☉ Seasonality;
- ☉ Type of product and form;
- ☉ Quality;
- ☉ Distance traveled by the product;



- ☉ Volume and demand;
- ☉ Promotion and advertising.

3. Place

Is the distribution channel used to make the product, service or concept available to the target group:

- ☉ Television news programs;
- ☉ Radio talk shows;
- ☉ Doctors office waiting rooms;
- ☉ Bulletin boards;
- ☉ Schools;
- ☉ Churches.

4. Promotion

Deals with how you get your message about the product out to the target audience.

Can involve different methods of conveying the message – advertising, personal selling, public relations etc.

- ☉ Television;
- ☉ Brochures and posters;
- ☉ Grocery bags.

Additional Elements in Marketing Sustainable Agriculture Products

Social marketing has adopted some Ps of its own:

- ☉ Publics;
- ☉ Partnership;
- ☉ Policy;
- ☉ Purse strings.

Publics

- ◆ Refers to the internal and external groups involved in the program;
- ◆ Internal groups are the organization's staff and officers, funding donors or agencies;
- ◆ External groups are the target audience, policy makers, etc.

Partnership

Teaming up with other groups in the community because social issues are so complex that one organization cannot do it by itself.

- ◆ Local government units;
- ◆ NGOs;
- ◆ Church groups;
- ◆ Civil society groups.

Policy

In social marketing programs policy support is needed to sustain the motivation of the target audience.

Examples:

- ◆ Organic corner at groceries and supermarkets;
- ◆ No smoking policy in the office or populous areas;
- ◆ Creation of bike lanes on city streets;
- ◆ Development of safe walking paths.

Purse strings

- ◆ How funds are generated;
- ◆ Usually in social marketing funds come from donor agencies, government grants, donations, etc.

SEEDS CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT AND USE, APPROACHES AND PRINCIPLES

Ms. Wilhelmina Pelegrina

Executive Director

Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (SEARICE)

Ms. Wilhelmina Pelegrina explained that seeds and plant genetic resources (PGRs) are important for the following reasons:

- ☉ They are a vital component of SA;
- ☉ They constitute our inheritance from previous generations and from other cultures
 - ◆ Chili - South America
 - ◆ Potato - from the Andes
 - ◆ Wheat - Middle East (fertile crescent)
 - ◆ Lemon - only citrus that came out of Asia from Jamaica
 - ◆ Guava - Latin America
 - ◆ Coffee - Africa
 - ◆ Oil palm - Latin America
 - ◆ Rubber - Latin America
- ☉ They are a source of food, fuel, medicine, shelter, clothes.

To further underscore the importance of PGRs, and to illustrate how they are often exploited to the disadvantage of their places of origin, Ms. Pelegrina cited the example of rubber. Thirty-two samples of rubber were once collected from Brazil, bound for the Kew gardens in England. Half of the samples died in transit. The samples were then moved from Sri Lanka to Malaysia. Only five samples survived the move, and these became the source of Malaysia's entire rubber industry.

To cite another example, North America, Europe and Australia are 93% dependent on 20 major food crops which originated from the South. The value of third world crop genes for US farmers per annum is estimated as follows:



Ms. Wilhelmina Pelegrina, making a presentation on seeds conservation, development and use, approaches and principles

- ☉ Sorghum: \$12 M;
- ☉ Wheat: \$500 M;
- ☉ Corn: \$1.3 T;
- ☉ Rice: \$118 M.

Issues Related to PGRs

Loss of biodiversity and genetic erosion (loss of seeds) because of breeding programs, agricultural policies and programs (promotion of single variety), land conversion etc.

This results in loss of genetic diversity between and within populations of the same species over time, or a reduction of the genetic base of species. For example, the Philippines used to have 3,000 rice varieties. Today, only about 15 varieties are planted to 80% of irrigated rice areas, and these are derived from a single cross.

The popular response has been to put up genebanks, and to invest in characterization, evaluation and documentation. There are currently 1,000 genebanks in the world, holding six million accessions.

Unfortunately, however, many collections have not been used fully in local breeding programs as most breeding programs do not use the genetic resources in their countries. This is because plant breeders tend to use favoured existing cultivars to generate new ones in order to get quicker results (to meet market demand and turn out more research output).

Hence, they prefer adaptation through selection rather than generating new variability or maintaining adaptability.

This translates to loss in utilizing rich genetic resources (diverse seeds) and narrower genetic base, slower gain in plant breeding and increased risk of crop vulnerability.

Intellectual Property Rights. Rights to seeds, which traditionally are a common property resource, are now increasingly becoming monopolized, through private ownership claims at the legal and technological fronts.

National seed systems are also being privatized, giving private companies a growing role in research, supply and distribution of public goods and services such as seeds.

services such as seeds.

The enforcement of IPRs over seeds is now a pre-condition for accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) or as part of Bilateral Trade Agreements (BTAs).

Unfortunately IP regimes do not recognize or protect the rights of informal innovators (farmers) to their genetic resources and knowledge.

- ☉ For example, a US-Vietnam BTA obligates Vietnam to adopt a plant variety protection regime that is inappropriate to existing seed systems in the country;
- ☉ Philippine Plant Variety Protection (PVP) law criminalizes the saving, use, exchange and sale by farmers of protected varieties.

Technological developments as form of technological IPR. Monopolistic rights are being enshrined with the aid of technologies such as hybrid technology, genetic engineering, and GURTS (terminator technology).

Role of farmers

1. Farmers supply the bulk of PGR

Farmers supply significant % of seed requirements. For example, MDFSRI project supplied 10% of the total Mekong Delta seed requirement in 2003, compared to 4% from the formal system.

In Bohol, Philippines and the Mekong Delta research results showed that farmers' rice seed materials are

comparable if not better than the certified seeds in terms of seed health, germination and purity.

2. Farmers conserve PGR

- ☉ Through continuous planting (conservation by utilization). For example, more than 1,000 varieties of sticky rice in Lao PDR, red rice in Bhutan and Bohol, Philippines. This also results in conservation of associated knowledge;
- ☉ Through establishment of farmer genebanks, like homegardens and seedbanks in the Mekong Delta;
- ☉ Through continuous crop improvement. This is done through:
 - ◆ Selection from stable varieties
 - ◆ E.g., sticky rice in Lao PDR and Northern Thailand; Bordagol variety – selection from IR variety; red rice of Bohol – some are selection from IR varieties;
 - ◆ Creation of composite population
 - ◆ E.g., mixing several varieties to form one variety (similar to having several lines to come up with heterogenous population). For example, Gondolot in Sabah, Malaysia; husband and wife variety in Lao PDR; three color variety of Lao PDR;
 - ◆ Selection from segregating materials
 - ◆ E.g., a Mekong Delta farmer who selected the discarded material of MDFSRI, now for national trial; Bajo Maap (red) variety of Bhutan;
 - ◆ Actual breeding (hybridisation and selection) according to their needs, environmental stresses, own breeding objectives
 - ◆ 27 farmer developed varieties in Bohol; 7 promising lines in Vietnam with 310 lines in late generation evaluation.

Day 8, November 13

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A ROLE FOR COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT IN SA PROGRAMS

Dr. Julian Gonsalves

According to Dr. Gonsalves, there are many ways by which a message could be conveyed in a popular way. A writing workshop, or writeshop, is one such option.

To understand further the role of communication, he distinguished between Reporting and Documentation.

Reports are outputs of activities, verbal or written. Documentation is a process that yields written insights, analysis, lessons, case studies.

An effective communication should be able to handle knowledge management effectively.

Messages could be effectively disseminated through such media as posters.

In the Philippines, komiks is one effective medium. In Nepal, one can get all kinds of information. In Vietnam, knowledge-learning communication process is being adopted. In India, use of the internet is widespread.

Dr. Gonsalves said that scaling up [SA efforts] is a function of good communication.

PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

Jacqueline Haessig Alleje

Board Member, OCCP; World Board Member IFOAM

Ms. Jacqueline Alleje started her presentation with a brief introduction on the principles of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM).

- ☉ The IFOAM principles are the roots from which organic agriculture grows and develops;
- ☉ They express the contribution that organic agriculture can make to the world, and a vision to improve all agriculture in a global context.

She then referred to agriculture as humankind's most basic activity.

History, culture and community values are embedded in agriculture, she said.

The principles of organic agriculture are to be applied to agricultural activities in the broadest sense: tending soils, water, plants and animals for production and distribution of food and other goods. They concern the way people interact with living landscapes, relate to one another and shape the legacy of future generations.

She added that the Principles of Organic Agriculture serve:

- ☉ To inspire the organic movement in its full diversity;

- To inspire governments and civil society to embrace a paradigm shift with regards to food production and sustainable development;
- To guide the development of Organic Programs and Standards.

Organic Agriculture is based on four principles: (1) health; (2) ecology; (3) fairness; and (4) care.

Principle of Health

Organic Agriculture should sustain and enhance the health of soils, plants, animals and humans as an indivisible whole.

This principle points out that the health of individuals and communities cannot be separated from the health of ecosystems.

Principle of Ecology

Organic Agriculture should be based on living ecological systems and cycles, work with them, emulate them and help sustain them.

This principle roots organic agriculture within living ecological systems to obtain and maintain a sustainable agricultural production without destroying the ecological systems.

Principle of Care

Organic agriculture should be managed in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.

Organic agriculture should prevent significant risks by adopting appropriate technologies and rejecting unpredictable ones.

Day 9, November 14

STUDY TOUR-NUEVA ECIJA

Philippine Rice Research Institute

The Philippine Rice Research Institute (Philrice) is a government institute involved in raising the production of rice to make the Philippines self-sufficient in rice production. It is also involved in producing genetic rice varieties and high yielding varieties. It claims to promote sustainable agriculture

but at the same time endorses the use of agro-chemicals.

Philrice does not work directly with farmers, but rather through NGOs. It has an extensive network that includes 57 agencies, among them NGOs and local government offices.

Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement

The Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) is an NGO involved in sustainable agriculture, particularly in the promotion of different sustainable agriculture models. It strives to replicate organic agriculture by integrating farm operations with enterprise development.

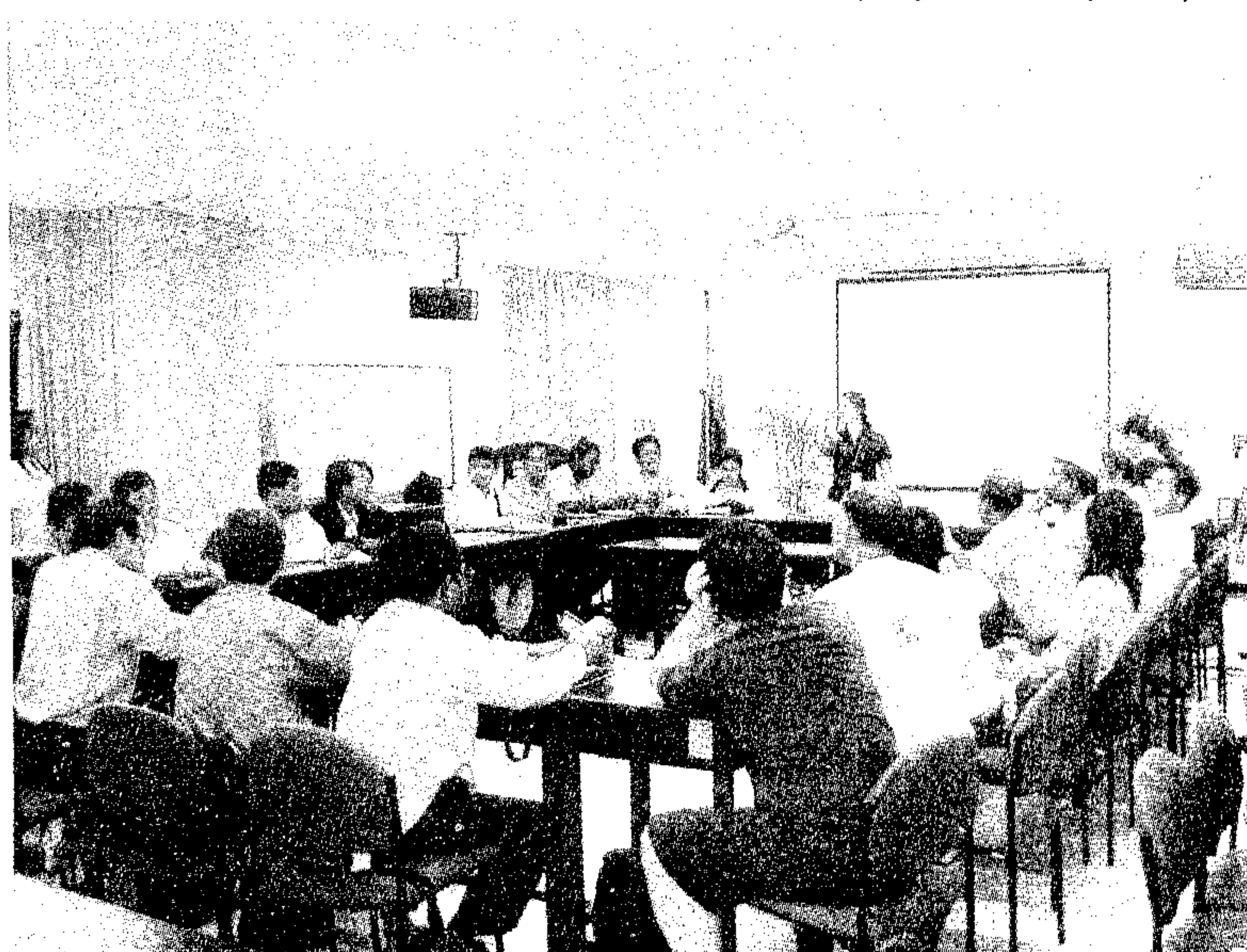
In 2002, PRRM and KALIKASAN-NE built a joint venture called KOOL NE, to support sustainable rice production and marketing in Nueva Ecija.

The following are some of the SA technologies adopted/improved on by PRRM.

Diversified and Integrated Farming Technology

Diversified and integrated farming technology (DIFT) is a farming system that harmoniously combines various production modes like rice production, aquaculture, bio-intensive gardening, poultry and swine raising and optional small and big ruminants raising. Rice production as the main component is based on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) [see below]. The DIFT model aims to break the traditional concept of "gawat season" or lean months between rice planting

Hazel Alfon discusses PhilRice programs with participants





Participants at PRRM Nueva Ecija branch office with Shubert Ciencia

and harvest. Complementing DIFT is the development of value adding farm-based cottage industries like production of carbonized rice hull production and other rice-based products.

DIFT has the following components:

Multi-purpose Tree Species (MPTS). MPTS refers to a combination of botanical pesticides, hedgerows and orchard trees that are usually planted at the borders of the farm. MPTS yields green manure, botanical pesticides, firewood and fruits.

System of Rice Intensification (SRI). SRI is the centerpiece of the DIFT farm. SRI aims to maintain or increase rice production while allocating portions of the rice paddies for diversification or cultivation of cash crops.

Bio-intensive Gardening (BIG). BIG gardens can provide vegetable crops that can be harvested on a daily basis. Vegetable crops provide a year-round supply of cash and food for the household and yields a higher return on investment compared to rice production. BIG follows the nutrient and pest management procedures of sustainable rice production.

Mini Fishpond. A mini fishpond can produce tilapia, carp, mudfish or catfish for sale or for household consumption. Freshwater shrimp as a high value cash crop can also provide a substantial revenue.

Poultry-raising. Duck, chicken and backyard swine production are also significant sources of food and income in the DIFT model.

Optional Components. Depending on the size of the farm and the capacity of the farmer, large ruminants like cattle and carabao can be integrated. Mushroom production is also a very feasible backyard enterprise.

Central Luzon State University

The Central Luzon State University (CLSU) is a Government Academic Institution (GAI) involved in providing an education in agriculture to both Filipino and foreign students. It has integrated SA components into its undergraduate and post-graduate curricula. It is also involved in genetic engineering research.

Much of the post-graduate research in agriculture at CLSU is geared towards SA. Among its SA-related research initiatives are:

- Determinants of Utilizing Organic Vegetables in Benguet Province, Philippines (2005);
- Farming Practices of Queen Pineapple in Camarines Sur Province, Philippines (2005);
- Sustainability of Payatak Rice In Catubig Valley, Northern Samar, Philippines (1999);



SA academicians Dr. Danny Vargas and Dr. Tito Canare of CLSU

- Magindanawan – Upland Rice Farming Sustainability in Selected Areas of Cotabato, Province, Philippines (2002);
- State of the art of organic farming on lowland irrigated rice and related studies in the Philippines (1997);
- Sustainability Measures of Rice Wheat System Across Agro-Ecological Regions in Nepal (1995);
- Sustainability of the Ifugao Terraces Farming System: An Evaluation (1998);
- Conservation and Management Practices of Freshwater Fishery Resources Among Indigenous People in the Project Impact Zone of Casecan Nueva Vizcaya: Implications of Sustainability (1999);
- Sustainability of the Hanunoos Upland Farming System in Mindoro (2001);
- Indigenous Resource Management System Among the Magindanawan Bangsamoro Towards Sustainability of Ligwasan Marshland in Cotabato and Maguindanao Provinces (2001).

Day 10, November 15

STUDY TOUR - MINDANAO

South East Asia Regional Social Leadership Institute

The South East Asian Regional Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN) is a training institute that works under the umbrella of Xavier University. It offers an education in SA to Asian and African researchers and leaders, through training, courses, seminars, and workshops.

Day 11, November 16

Gardens of Malasag (an Eco-Tourism Village)

The Gardens of Malasag Eco-Tourism Village was established by the National Tourism Authority in 1996. It occupies 7.2 hectares, and sits adjacent to 800 hectares of reforested land.

It is a theme park, comprised by numerous villages representing different tribes in Mindanao: the Subanon, Talaandig, Higaonon, Ifugao of the Cordillera, and Maranao. The park features various species of flora and fauna, cultural performances and other facilities (restaurant, cottages). Visitors come for short visits, or stay overnight. The Eco-Tourism Village is also a learning center, serving to enhance the educational, scientific and cultural interests of the youth.

The participants observed that Eco-Tourism Village staff use traditional stoves and firewood to cook food inside their huts, thus causing a lot of smoke emission. This affects the health of the staff.

The absence of insects, especially butterflies at the front part of the park, was also noticeable, as was the smell of insect spray. The staff explained that they have termite problems. One of the participants recommended the use of NEEM leaves in place of insecticide. It was also suggested that the Department of Tourism Inc. (DOT), which oversees the running of the Eco-Tourism Village get in touch with the Department of Agriculture (DA) to learn more about integrated pest management and other ways to get rid of pests without the use of artificial or chemical sprays/inputs.

Mapawa Nature Park

The Mapawa Ranch used to be the property of the family of former Philippine Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez. The Pelaezes had built a wooden house on forest land which they had leased from the Government under the latter's Integrated Forest Management Program. The Emmanuel Pelaez Ranch, Inc. undertook the management of the leased land and opened it to the public as a Nature Park. The company is committed to promoting biodiversity conservation in the area.

The Malasag House

In the cool, forested hills of Barangay Malasag is Cagayan de Oro's center for total healing called "The Malasag House". The Center was put up in the 1980s by Dr. Paulita V. Baclig whose main motivation was to give people a place to go for optimal healing. And not just by doctors, but also women and mothers, biodynamic farmers, indigenous healers, health professionals and therapists of different modalities.

"Our underlying passion has always been 'salutogenesis', or strengthening the sources of health and wellness within each of us," said Dr. Paulita Baclig.

The Center houses the Integrated Family Medicine and Wellness Clinic, which combines the benefits of medicine with those of healthy eating. Thus, it practices biodynamic farming in growing its food.

The visit to the Family Medicine and Wellness Clinic was a great break from the land trips the participants had been exposed to. They had an hour of natural exercise, listened to an orientation about the healing exercise process, and then dined on organic food.

Day 12, November 17

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World Agro-Forestry (ICRAF)

The World Agroforestry Centre is an autonomous, non profit organization established in 1977. Its mission, among others, is to conduct innovative research and development on agroforestry, strengthen the capacity of its partners, enhance worldwide recognition of the human and environmental benefits of agroforestry, and provide scientific leadership in the field of integrated natural resource management.



Participants visiting ICRAF

ICRAF's work in the Phillipines is focused on upland areas (e.g. in Claveria), where the farmer communities generally practice agroforestry. Some activities of ICRAF in Claveria are plot experimentation, community managed tree seed collection, etc.

Most, if not all, of the technologies applied by the center in their projects make use of inorganic inputs.

Doalnara Restoration Society

The Doalnara Restoration Society farm, located between Mt. Lumot and Mt. Balatukan--about 800 to 1,2000 meters above sea level in Claveria, Misamis Oriental--is made up of a community of 700 people practicing organic farming. The farm occupies a 1000-hectare area that is under a sustainable forest management scheme of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Four hundred hectares of this area is planted to yacon, the main crop, while a smaller area has been set aside to grow ornamental plants and vegetables.

The community started farming in 1994, and from then until 1997 they used a mix of organic and inorganic fertilizers until the soil fertility had been restored. By 1999, they were using 100% organic inputs.

The span of the farm was quite impressive. "It is quite extraordinary how a community practices and lives the organic way", commented one participant. The organizer was asked about how the cooperative shares profits among coop members. Apparently, the coop has not yet distributed dividends to its members as the earnings are ploughed back to production. While the members of the coop have housing, the facilities are too cramped and are stacked closed to one another. The issue of privacy was brought up by a participant.

The farm yields an average of 40 tons of yacon per hectare, which the farmers sell at Php35 per kilo on average. Doalnara's tubers are bigger, more delicious, and far more medicinal than other tubers. About 50% of the farmers' yacon harvest is exported to Japan and the US. Farmers also earn from yacon by-products like cough syrup and cough tablets.

Day 13, November 18

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LECTURE AND PRACTICUM IN SEARSOLIN COMPOUND ON NATURE FARMING

The participants were divided into three thematic groups for the case/field work. A resource person/facilitator was assigned to each thematic group.

Thematic Group I

Natural Farming

Facilitator: Dodong Borja

Members:

- ☛Che-che Morilla;
- ☛Chan Saruth;
- ☛In Chantha;
- ☛Tariq Javed;
- ☛Dr. Sajida Latif;
- ☛Gokul Gautam;
- ☛Andy Licuan;
- ☛Carmencita Hernandez.

Nature farm fields showcasing nature farming methods were visited.

A farmer practicing nature farming was invited to deliver the lecture on nature farming. He also prepared the nature farming fertilizers and pest repellent, which are excellent and also environmentally friendly. Many technologies were introduced by him like indigenous micro-organism, fermented plant juice (fpj), fermented fruit juice (ffj), fish amino acid, oriental herbal nutrients and natural insect attractants.

Thematic Group II

Sustainable Agriculture/SAC

Facilitator : Glenda Sol

Members :

- ☉ Jayson Eric Astudillo;
- ☉ A.H.M. Kamal Prodhan;
- ☉ Md Amzad Ali;
- ☉ Chollasuong Polsaen;
- ☉ Sil Vineth;
- ☉ Xie Dongming;
- ☉ Andy Armansyah;
- ☉ Jingtao Zhang;
- ☉ Heng Mei Xu.

The SA Center (SAC) is one of the units located within the 64-hectare Xavier University College of Agriculture Complex, also known as Manresa Farm.

The outreach units have their offices in the Complex, namely:

- ☉ South East Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN);
- ☉ Appropriate Technology Center (ATC);
- ☉ Affiliated Non-Conventional Energy Center - Department of Energy (ANEC-DOE);
- ☉ Food Technology Center (FTC);
- ☉ Peri-Urban Vegetable Project (PUVEP).

Observed one participant: "As an academe-based development organization, it seemed an efficient and effective knowledge-based sustainable agriculture resource and learning organization. It is an excellent adjunct to the Xavier University College of Agriculture in the development of

methodologies and sound scientific fundamentals of Sustainable Agriculture curriculum."

Thematic Group III

PUVEP-BIO-CLAPPS-Vegetables Production

Facilitator: Amorlito Melicor

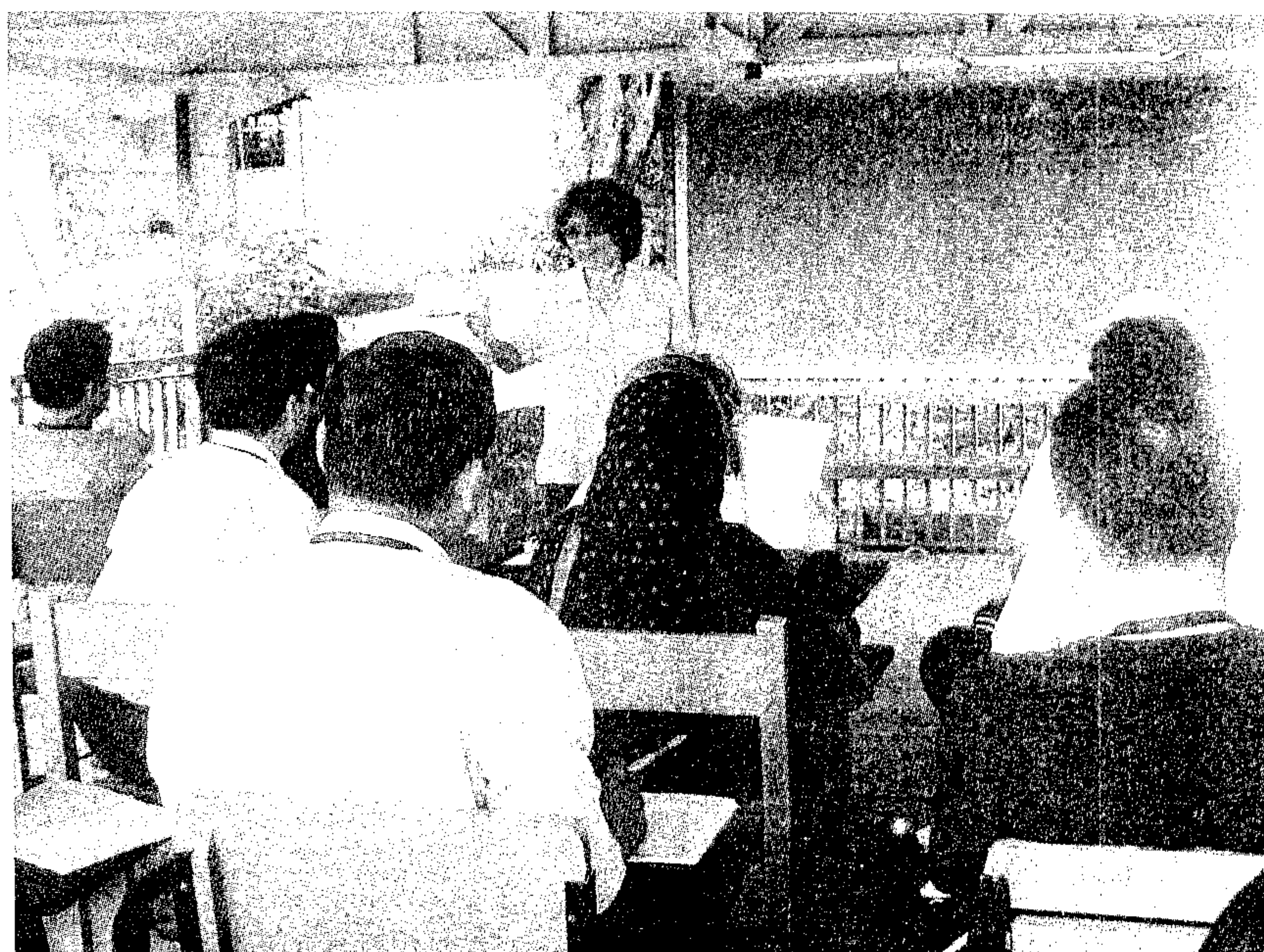
Members:

- ☉ Karl Vincent Queipo;
- ☉ Sumran Sarabun;
- ☉ Lin Mao;
- ☉ Havac Chuc;
- ☉ Wawan Ahmad Ridwan;
- ☉ Rajendra Nath Reddy Sannadi;
- ☉ Wrenges Widjoraras;
- ☉ Vu Tiet Son.

The Periurban Vegetable Project (PUVeP) is one of the research and outreach units of Xavier University College of Agriculture (XUCA). It started its operations in October 1997 as an international research project co-funded by the European Union Commission (INCO-DEV Program).

PUVeP provides research, training and education related to urban natural resources management and food production in the city with particular emphasis on:

- ☉ developing economically viable, environmental benign and socially accepted vegetable production systems;
- ☉ supply of affordable, healthy vegetables which



are year-round available, particularly to the urban poor;

- ☉ integration of urban and periurban food production into city planning;
- ☉ contribution to overall urban natural resources management;
- ☉ integration of urban agriculture in relevant academic curricula and extension programs.

The linkages with the City government of Cagayan de Oro and the academe in Germany and Belgium were explained to the participants. Some of the participants expressed their desire to work with their local government units and also with other donor organizations/institutions.

DAY 14, November 19



FIELDTRIP TO DIFFERENT SA FARMS

The Baungon and Impasug-ong Farmers' SA Initiatives
The participants commended one of the farmers involved in the farmer-led farming system in Maasin Vicdao, Baungon, Bukidnon. The farmer-owner explained how he started farming which eventually led to organic rice farming. "My experience gave me the opportunity to learn and discover the different techniques, technologies that can be adopted in the farm," he said.

MISAD Multi-Purpose Cooperative

The MISAD (Mabunga Imbatog Salimbalan Ditric) Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MISADPC) operates in Patpat, Imbatug, Baungon, Bukidnon. It is involved in organic farming as well as in the marketing of organic products.

The Coop was put up in 1996 by 110 agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) awarded the land under the CARP. The Coop now has 216 members.

The Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA), to-



gether with the Appropriate Technology Center (ATC), organized MISAD under PhilDHRRA's Tripartite Partnership for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (TriPARRD) program.

Kaanib Foundation

Kaanib Foundation is an NGO involved in producing organic rice and vegetables.

With its 18-member staff, KAANIB works with approximately 1,500 households. KAANIB helps farmers to select and cultivate rice varieties that are most suitable to their specific areas. However, Kaanib endorses rice varieties developed by MASIPAG, an NGO-offshoot of the MASIPAG project implemented in 1986 and which was a collaborative effort among farmers, scientists, and NGOs to develop or restore rice varieties that need no chemical inputs.

The participants then had a session with Ms. Joan Uy on SA Vegetable Growing. This is the part of the field trip which focused on the marketing aspect of SA. Ms. Uy said that vegetable growing is quite profitable in Impasug-ong given the right access to market information, and the dedication and commitment to produce a regular supply of quality products.

Day 15, November 20



VISIT TO DIFFERENT ORGANIC FARMING COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS

Tongan-tongan Organic Farmers Society on SA

Tongan-Tongan is an example of a farming commu-

nity whose SA initiatives have the full support of its barangay council. The barangay had in fact issued an ordinance in support of SA farming initiatives in the barangay. The barangay's SA involvement started in 1999, following a community action research. In 2001, an SA program was institutionalized in the barangay.

Some 250 farmers in Tongan-tongan currently practise chemical-free farming on 1,100 hectares. The farmers do not need to apply organic fertilizers on their crops; instead, right after harvesting, they return the rice straw to the field, plough it in, and leave it there for a week, after which the land would be ready for direct sowing. The farmers do not practice crop rotation either as they cultivate rice only twice a year. At each cropping, they spend a month on land preparation, four months on cultivation, and one month on harvesting.

The barangay prohibits the burning of rice straw, practises waste segregation, and disposes of inorganic waste outside the barangay.

The youth of Tongan-tongan are also actively involved in SA. In May 2005, several of its young people attended a seminar on SA. The participants were most impressed with the participation of young people in organic farming. The delegation from Indonesia committed to connect with young farmers on their return to their country.

Makakabus Organization

Makakabus was established in the year 1995 as an association composed of wives of rice farmer-members in Sinayawan and its neighboring barangays in Valencia City. After many years of hard work and experience, the women's organization was able to implement several enterprise initiatives under the Promoting Participation through Sustainable Enterprise (PPSE) program of the Philippine Development Assistance Programme (PDAP). These enterprises are the Organic Rice Production and Marketing Service. The organization has expanded its membership through time to include male

farmers. This makes Makakabus one of the top producers of organic rice in Bukidnon.

Although it was a long walk to the rice fields, the participants enjoyed watching organic farmers at work. In addition, they received first-hand accounts from the women farmers of how they manage to produce organic rice with inorganic rice farms all around them. The women farmers also showed the participants how the ducks eat the snails that are found in their organic farms. "We also harvest snails for our food. We know it's organic as well," said the women.

Day 16, November 21

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VISIT TO SA OUTLETS

BOPC

The Bukidnon Organic Products Corporation (BOPC), located at the heart of Cagayan de Oro City, serves as the marketing link between some of the organic farmers and producers of Bukidnon, Agusan del Sur, Misamis Oriental, and South Cotabato, and the growing number of consumers interested in organic produce.

"It is wonderful to concretely see organic products – such as soap, juices, jams and cocoa, coffee are stacked in shelves of the malls, special store like BOPC," said one of the participants.

Participants on a visit to Makakabus



“Being able to buy organic products makes me feel good and proud. It is probably because I’ve met some of the farmers who produce these organic products,” said another.

Day 17, November 22

TRIP TO LOS BANOS

Upon the request of the participants, a visit to the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) was arranged. At IRRI, they were shown a video on IRRI’s work and where they were given a tour of the IRRI museum.



Trying on hats from different Asian countries at IRRI

Following the trip to IRRI, the participants gave their individual sharing of reflections.

- Determine the timetable;
- Determine the needed resources for you to implement this program of action.

Day 18, November 23

Maria Faina Diola of AJPN made a presentation on SA Mainstreaming and Networking. She discussed the need to have clear objectives in scaling-up and networking. She underscored the importance of demonstrating the impact of SA work, networking and governance. She also cited AJPN’s experience in the formulation of a Regional Resource Development Plan for the Enhancing Capacities for SA towards Poverty Reduction.

She shared with the participants a Micro-Macro Link of the Site Plans Using a Sustainable Livelihoods Planning Framework. Following Ms. Diola’s presentation, the participants, using the guidelines below, worked on their country and regional planning.

Planning Guideline

- Set your key objectives upon re-entry to your respective agencies;
- Determine the activities and tasks required to achieve these objectives;

PRESENTATION OF ACTION PLAN

Following the action planning session, a common goal that emerged was “ensuring good quality of life to mod-

Guidelines for Re-entry Planning for the Promotion of SA	
I. Starting Point in Planning	
Assess Yourself	Assess your Agency
1. Who am I?	1. What is its mission? What is its role in your country?
2. What are my strengths as a person and as a professional	2. What are its resources
3. What are my weaknesses or limitations as person and as professional?	3. How does it function in the pursuit of its mission?
4. Where do I belong?	4. What is my role and functions inside this agency?
5. What can I contribute in the promotion of SA	5. What are the functions of others?
6. How can I cooperate with my fellow TCTP alumni both in my batch and 1st batch in my country? In the region	6. What can it contribute to the promotion of SA in your country?
	7. What are the available opportunities and limitations of your agency with regards to the promotion of SA in your country?

ern/environmentally conscious small farmers (men and women) in Asia”.

The participants’ specific objectives are:

- ☛Poverty reduction;
- ☛Enhanced food security;
- ☛Greater productivity;
- ☛Higher employment;
- ☛Improved health.

The following are general trends in the participants action plans:

Capacity building for sustainable agriculture

- ☛Training;
- ☛Study visits;
- ☛Extension service;
- ☛Demo farms;
- ☛Schools: SA School; FFS; Community Learning Centers;
- ☛Sharing of TCTP Seminar with officemates/colleagues.

Information dissemination and management

- ☛Publication (newsletters, books, technical journals, documentation of experience, success stories);
- ☛Data base;
- ☛Website.

Organization and networking

Networking (government, farmers, NGOs, private enterprises, academe).

Policy reform/advocacy

Advocacy – government support needed for mainstreaming.

Production

- ☛ Actual crop production;
- ☛ Incorporation of SA in existing projects or programs

Marketing

- ☛ Establishment of a marketing group;
- ☛ Establishment of marketing channels;

Resource mobilization(cash or kind)

- ☛ Donor/investor search;
- ☛ Cost sharing;
- ☛ Soliciting government support;

- ☛ Accessing sources of credit.

Alumni Relations

- ☛Organization of a TCTP Alumni Chapter;
- ☛Coordination with the First Batch (TCTP-Agrarian Reform).

The **Regional Plan** consists of the formation of the **Asian Alliance on Sustainable Agriculture (AASA)**.

The participants elected their officers, as follows:

President

Rajendra Nath Reddy Sannadi (India)

Vice President

Karl Queipo (Philippines)

Secretary

Dr. Sajida Tufail (Pakistan)

Treasurer

Andy Licuan (Philippines)

The objectives of the AASA are:

- ☛Establishment of a website (updated monthly, to include databank of experts);
- ☛Publication of an SA journal;
- ☛Networking and membership building;
- ☛Holding of annual meetings and regional workshops;
- ☛Training and exchange visits;
- ☛Fund raising – Initial P500 contribution of participants;
- ☛Designation of ANGOC as interim AASA secretariat;
- ☛Formulation of by-laws.

Day 19, November 24

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CLOSING REMARKS

Assistant Secretary Rey Carandang

Department of Foreign Affairs

The Department of Foreign Affairs extended its sincere congratulations to the participants for having successfully completed this TCTP focused on the topic of Sustainable Agriculture as an alternative to achieve poverty eradication. The participants have accomplished no simple feat in

attending this training course. They face an even greater challenge as they go back to their own countries and workplace to apply what they have learned.

"I wish the participants well. Your colleagues, your constituents and your country will benefit from you. I know we will meet again," he ended.

Mr. Nathaniel Don Marquez

ANGOC Executive Director

Mr. Nathaniel Don Marquez said that "[based on] the participants' individual reflections and re-entry work plans, we are confident that sustainable agriculture initiatives will be promoted and more importantly, implemented in their respective countries. We expect that the participants will be able to re-echo and share whatever new things they have learned from this course, especially to other individuals and organizations in their respective countries, with the view of mainstreaming sustainable agriculture."

Mr. Marquez added that "the success of this training program will not be measured on how elaborate a participant can explain the issues or methodologies for sustainable agriculture, but it is how concretely plans are transformed into realities. We know that it is a challenge, given the limitations in human, technical, and financial resources vis-à-vis the political realities in the respective countries. But with constant perseverance, hard work and dialogue with various stakeholders, we are certain that things will be done. We hope that JICA, in its various country offices, will be open to further discuss possibilities for collaborative follow-up work in their respective countries."

Mr. Akira Goto

Japan International Cooperation Agency

On behalf of JICA, Mr. Goto expressed great pleasure in participating in the closing ceremonies of the TCTP on Building Capacities of Asian NGOs in Poverty Eradication through Community Action.

He commended all the participants' perseverance and industry to accomplish the objectives of this training. JICA hopes that the knowledge and skills, and lessons they have acquired from the training on sustainable agriculture will be put to good use, and that the NGOs and the government officials, will

continue to work closely with one another after going back to their respective countries.

He congratulated all the participants for successfully completing JICA's TCTP. He also thanked and cited the efforts of the officials and training staff of ANGOC for their tireless efforts and total dedication to make this training successful.

For JICA's part, it is committed to pursue programs that complement efforts of the Asian governments so that together, we may provide better quality of life to this part of the globe. He ended his speech quoting the JICA slogan, "Hand in hand, let us build a better tomorrow, for all".

Messages from the Diplomatic Corps

Ambassador Mohammad Abul Quasham of Bangladesh and Charge d'Affaires Zahoor Ahmed of the Pakistan Embassy in separate messages congratulated the training participants for their accomplishment. Each of them noted the important role that agriculture in general plays in Asian economies and its pivotal role in defining the progress of a country. They also recognized the importance of partnership between civil society organizations and governments in achieving poverty alleviation of Asia's rural poor.

After the two officials, Mr. Havan Chuc, one of the Vietnamese participants, read a prepared speech of Vietnamese Ambassador Dinh Tich. The Ambassador's message recalled the devastation wrought by the Vietnam War on the country and the heroic efforts of the Vietnamese people to rebuild their lives. He acknowledged that Vietnam is "still a poor developing country, but [it] is peaceful, safe, and progressing. The life of my people is getting better; and poverty alleviation [efforts] have had great success [in meeting] the UN goals."

He also credited the help of friendly countries, including the Philippines and Japan, as well as friends in the international community who showed their solidarity with the Vietnamese people and their active support.

Annexes

Annex 1: Directory of Participants

Annex 2: Country Action Plans

Directory of Participants

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Third Country Training Program on Building Capacities of Asian NGOs in Poverty Eradication through Community Action Year 2 (JFY 2005)

Sustainable Agriculture : A Viable Alternative for Resource-Poor Farmers
University Hotel, U.P. Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
6-25 November 2005

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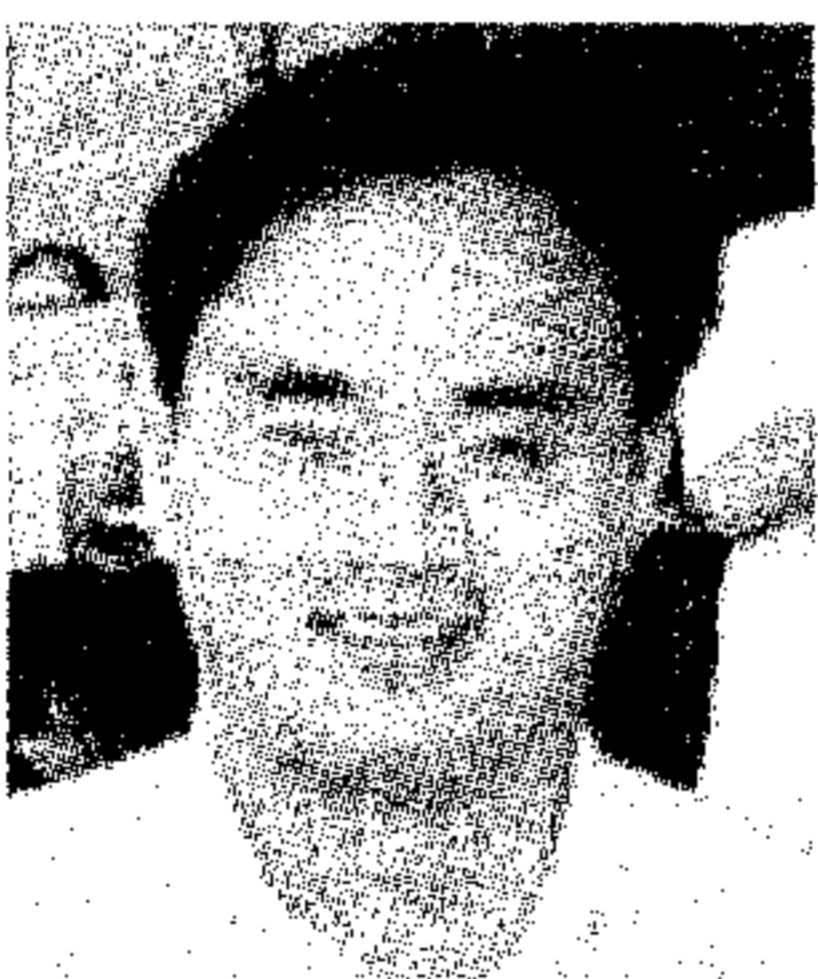
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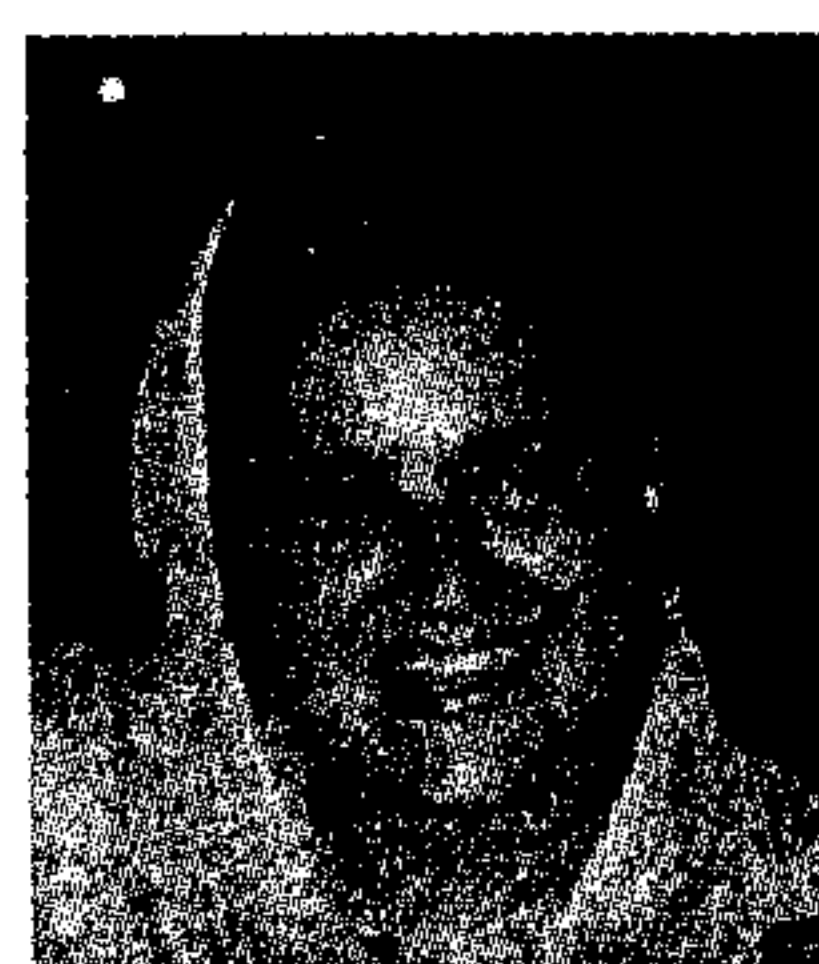
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Annex 2:
Country Action Plans

Bangladesh Cambodia China India
Indonesia Nepal Pakistan
Philippines Thailand Vietnam

Country Level Plan *Bangladesh*

Activities	Time Frame 2006												Responsibility		
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		Dec	
Sharing the Training experience with in Ministry															Ali
Sharing the Training experience & Orientation with in District / Field level Govt Agri Officials															Ali
Coordination with First Batch Participants of S.A															Ali & Kamal
Sharing the Experience on S.A to the Like Minded organisation														Ali & Kamal	
Sharing with in NGO Staff															Kamal
Article Publishing On S.A in Monthly Departmental Magazine															Ali
Article Publishing On S.A in Quarterly New letter of NGO.															Kamal
Field level monitoring for Implementation of S.A															Ali & Kamal
Attended the AASA Annual meeting & Coordination													Kamal		

ACTION PLAN FOR COUNTRY LEVEL

Cambodia



Prepared by:

Mr. Sil Vineth

Mr. Chan Saruth

Mr. In Chantha

Country Level Plan *Bangladesh*

Activities	Time Frame 2006												Responsibility		
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		Dec	
Sharing the Training experience with in Ministry															Ali
Sharing the Training experience & Orientation with in District / Field level Govt Agri Officials															Ali
Coordination with First Batch Participants of S.A															Ali & Kamal
Sharing the Experience on S.A to the Like Minded organisation													Ali & Kamal		
Sharing with in NGO Staff															Kamal
Article Publishing On S.A in Monthly Departmental Magazine															Ali
Article Publishing On S.A in Quarterly New letter of NGO.															Kamal
Field level monitoring for Implementation of S.A															Ali & Kamal
Attended the AASA Annual meeting & Coordination													Kamal		

Formulate SA founder

- **ANGOC-JICA Alumni- Cambodia chapter (Mr. Chan Saruth, Mr. In Chantha, and Mr. Sil Vineth);**
- **Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries;**
- **Socio-Economic Development Organization of Cambodia**
- **Donor agencies" FAO, JICA, CANADA FUND, SIDA "**

Networking

- **Identify networking members;**
- **Establish networking among Provincial Agriculture Department, NGOs, and Private enterprises; and**
- **National farmer networking in collaborate with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.**

SA TRAINING NEEDS

- **Conduct training for Provincial Agriculture Department, NGOs, and Private enterprise on SA approaches:**
 - 2 training courses per year
 - 25 trainees per course (public, private and NGOs organizations)
 - 10 days per course (theory 5 days, field internship 3 days, and report and action plan 2 days)

Exposure trips on SA

- **Conduct exposure trips for networking members to exchange and share experiences on SA activities in particular specific project areas:**
 - **2 exposure trips per year**
 - **25 trainees per trip (public, private and NGO organizations)**
 - **3 days per trip**

National Workshop on SA

- **Conduct national workshop to increase SA awareness and support from all stakeholders:**
 - 1 workshop per year
 - 50 participants (public, private and NGO organizations)
 - 2 days

SA BULLETIN

- Publish 2 times per year;
- Main contains of SA bulletin including:
 - Organic farming;
 - Livestock;
 - Fisheries;
 - Natural conservation; and
 - SA Marketing information.

Country Plans China

Action	Content	Resource needed	Time	Note
Organization Construction	Advocacy the government to establish special administrative organization at all levels	Support from Government	ASAP	Country, provincial, prefecture and county level
	Mobilize society organizations to Create NGO network on SA	Leading organization and participation of rural NGOs	6 month	
	Organize cooperative at county/village level			
Policy reform	Establish strict standard on SA cultivation and production,	Support from Government and relative research institute;	ASAP	
Establish demonstration sites	Awake public awareness on SA development with real case	Training, technical and financial support,	1 year	10 sites in different areas
Information exchange	Workshop, seminars and exhibition		Long term, first strategy in 3 month	At different level, both domestic and international
	Field visit			

China (con't.)

Technical extension and training	Compile training book		3 years, 6 months for compile the book	
	Establish training support center in agriculture main production area	Expert and technician		10 training center in combination with demonstration center
	Carry out Training for technicians both TOT and county/village level	Expert and technician		
Establish database	Establish a website which can provide information on market, technical, successful case study, relative law and policies, and On-line QA.	Technical support, informational system resource		
Establish a SA Foundation	To get special fund support and help poor area develop sustainable agriculture.			Draw on fund from government, corporation, individual and international agencies.

In cooperation with
 All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives, CANGO, FAO,
 WB, ADB, GCAP-China (Global call to Action Against Poverty)

Country Plans India

Objectives

- To Bring policy changes of the Department of Agriculture to promote SA practices
- To co-ordinate with Mr. Krishna Prasad alumni of 1st batch TCTP participant in promoting agrarian reforms
- To establish SA training school for the school dropouts
- To create awareness on impact of WTO, IPR and GMO to resource poor farmers

Country Plans *India*

Activities and Tasks

- Sharing with SARRA's 100 SA practicing farmers from this training program and discuss how to scale up the activity by giving technical inputs; negotiate and discuss about the training program with Department of Agriculture, Policy Makers, NGOs and other line departments. Since Department of Agriculture is having funds and man power they can promote SA in big way as they have some of the programs related to SA.
- I would like to co-ordinate with Mr. Krishna Prasad who have attended the first batch trg program on agrarian reform work which he is implementing and I would like to support or add my inputs and take his inputs in promoting SA.
- I would like to establish Sustainable Agriculture School for the school dropouts in eastern part of Chittoor Dist of Andhra Pradesh. The main intension of establishing such unique school is to train school dropouts as torch bearers for promoting SA. Since we have lot of problems with the employment in rural areas. This will serve as model school in training the rural youth for promoting SA and also for their Livelihoods.
- Series of awareness meetings will be organized at different levels on impacts of WTO, IPR and GMO on resource poor farmers. Some work shops and trainings will be also organized on the above mentioned issues. These activities will be closely worked out with Department of Agriculture, NGOs, and other organizations / persons who are concerned about the issues.

Country Plans India

Time Table: 2006

S	Description	Jan	Fe	Ma	Ap	M	Ju	Jul	Au	Sep	Oct	No	De
1	Policy Changes on SA	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
2	Co-ordination with 1 st Batch TCTP	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
3	Estd of SA School							***	***	***	***	***	***
4	Awareness on WTO, IPR and GMOs					***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

Needed Resources:

Literature, Audio Visual Aids, Computer and LCD Projectors, and funds for organizing awareness meetings, trainings and workshops.

Country Plans Indonesia

- **Sustainable Agriculture (SA) training-workshop for youths**
- Objectives:
- To promote Sustainable Agriculture (SA) among the youths
- To empower the youths to involve in the SA practices in their respective areas
- To link (network) the youths organization to the existing farmers organizations/ local NGOs
- Output:
- The youths will take role in practicing SA
- The involvement of the youths will be in organizational level
- Location
- Cirebon (West Java)
- East Nusa Tenggara
- Participants:
- Youths (children of farmers or young farmers, age: 19-30 years old)
- Financial support:
- Dept of Agriculture (Cirebon)
- Cost sharing of WALHI and VECO Indonesia
- Other donors
- NoActivities20061234567891011121Preparation: Coordination w local NGOs/organizationsPreparation on materials, source people, curriculum2Training-workshop- the participants will propose their action plan3Continuation of action plans(e.g.: demo plots, marketing group)4Networking, promotion of SAnetwork with NGOs, government, farmer organizations, university/schoolsadvocacy media (radio program, posters, bulletin, etc)Will be included in the existing program/work of each organisation

Country Plans Nepal

<i>Sn</i>	<i>Key Activity</i>	<i>First Qtr</i>	<i>Second Qtr</i>	<i>Third Qtr</i>	<i>Fourth Qtr</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.0	Networking					
1.1	Orientation to member organizations & Staff members on SA approaches	√				
1.2	Establishment of SA network at country level		√			
1.3	Organize consultations on food security			√		
2.0	Implementation of SA models					
2.1	Farmer field school on IPM	√	√			
2.2	Off-season organic vegetable farming		√	√		
2.3	Incorporation of Nature Farming in Hill Agriculture System			√	√	

Country Plans Nepal

3.0	Documentation and Publication						
3.1	Publishing SA networking Brochure		√				
3.2	Publishing E-news, best practices and Roaster of SA organizations/Experts with AASA				√	√	

Country Plans Pakistan

Caritas Pakistan 2005-2006

Sr. no	Activity	Jan. - March	April - June	July- September	October - December
1	Orientation of Sustainable Agriculture technologies to the Staff members.	X			
2	Integration of Sustainable agriculture with the existing agriculture projects/Programs.		X		
3	Developing National Sustainable Agriculture Project			X	
4	Networking / Collaboration with Govt. / other allied departments				X
5	Publication of Sustainable agriculture practices in the form of booklet/manual				X
6	Information sharing/exchange programs etc	X	X	X	X

Country

Sustainable Agriculture Plan

Philippines



A. Goal

- The Goal is the Development of the Rice, Sugarcane, Fruits, and Vegetables Industry where poverty will be alleviated through increased income of the all households in community/ies

B. Objectives

Increased income of site/ area households through:

- ***Enhanced Farm Productivity through SA and Enhanced Processing Capabilities.***
- ***Establishment of Market Linkage for SA products.***
- ***Collaboration with different key institutions, and personalities.***
- ***Policy Reform***

C. Strategies

- 1. Enhanced Farm Productivity through SA

The strategy for this component is the facilitation of a Farmer Field School / Demo Farm on SA Production (Comparative and Varietal Trial)

Enhanced Processing and Packaging Capabilities

Organizing the Farmers Organization and tapping other institutions for support.

Promotions through IEC and mass media tools.

- 2. Establishment of Market Linkage for SA farm products
- Establish a Marketing Plan (for positioning and marketing mix strategy) and Market Linkage

Collaboration with National Government Agencies, Local Government Units,

Business Sectors, Donor Agencies and Non-Government Organizations.

- 3. Industry Masterplan (Sugarcane, rice, etc), Barangay to Municipal Development Plan.

D. Expected output

- **1. Increase the number of people practicing SA by 10 % per year in the next 5 years.**
- **2. Increase in income of farmers by 10%.**
- **3. Increase Government and Business sector support**

E. Time table

- **Year 1 -Capacity Building with focus on Farm productivity and inculcating SA in various trainings/ IEC at the same time promote diversified farming.**
- **Master planning,**
- **Year 1 to 3 - Application – Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture (LEISA) with diversified farming.**
- **Year 3-5 Fully Organic Farm practices and acquired organic certification.**

F. Budget

- PDAP has budgetary allocations in support for marketing and industry development of 3 prime commodities namely:
 - Organic Rice
 - Organic Sugar
 - Seaweeds
- ICDAI and Phildhrra has budgetary allocations for training, production and IEC materials.
- Collaboration with different stakeholders (NGO, NGA, LGU's and Farmers Organizations and Cooperative)
- Coordination or partnership with various financing institutions (Landbank, Quedancor and Rural Banks) are being studied to ensure fair and accessible lending systems to the farmers where PDAP will act as a guarantor.

Country Plans Thailand

ACTION PLAN

Mr.Sumran Sarabun

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Individual level at country

What do you plan to do as individual in your country?

- Improve some activities in SA project (Sustainable Agriculture for Environment, SAFE Project) which start from project internal review
- Organize a meeting with my staff in SA project about the concept and principle of SA as well as lessons learned in the trainings
- SA plan development in new sub-district

Country level

- Orientation with organization' staff for planning activity
- The SA database developed will be strengthened and incorporate information system
- Coordinate with local organization and organization who work in SA (GOs and NGOs)
- Learning centre development , In selected , strengthened community , learning centre which focus on specific SA technology, supported by farmers with expertise in these , will be further developed as a centre for local expertise in these technologies.
- Farmer networking . Improving and expanding networking between farmers, farmer groups and communities is felt to be an important component of SA development by all partners. Networking skill are something which can be taught and learned, with practice.

Country Plans Thailand

Planning: Chollasuang Polsaen

1. Individual level at country

What do you plan to do as individual in your country?

- Improve activities in SA project for example " Farmer field school" and Development of "learning community" for rice farmers and NGOs workers
- To promote and disseminate the concept of sustainable agriculture and successfully approved to farmers and those interested
- To train farmers and extension workers from government and NGOs in alternative agriculture network (AAN) and other countries.
- To build alternative markets based on mutual understanding between farmers and consumers in my province and elsewhere and collaborate with other AAN.
- To push for improvement in government policy on alternative agriculture, environment and biodiversity in collaboration with AAN and its partners in other countries.

2. Country level

What we plan to do with your classmates in our country?

- Orientation with organization' staff for planning activity
- The SA database developed will be strengthened and incorporate information system
- Coordinate with local organization and organization who work in SA (GO and NGOs)
- Learning centre development , In selected , strengthened community , learning centre which focus on specific SA technology
- Supported by farmers with expertise in these , will be further developed as a centre for local expertise in these technologies.
- Farmer networking . Improving and expanding networking between farmers, farmer groups and communities is felt to be an important component of SA development by all partners. Networking skill are something which can be taught and learned. With practice.

Country Plans Vietnam

- **We try to consult to Ministry how to apply and develop Sustainable Agriculture in the country and make mechanism, policies for formulating Sustainable Agriculture Systems.**
- **Coordinate with some agencies to organize training courses to the government officials and training to trainers (TOT) and farmers to farmers (FOF) on Sustainable Agriculture.**
- **Coordinate with other agencies to present and disseminate Sustainable Agriculture in workshops.**
- **Building the marketing channel systems and information systems for the farmers and consumers.**

Country Plans Vietnam

- **Establishment of the project to help the poor farmers.**
- **Coordinate with Institutes, Universities and others to transfer technologies and experiences to farmers.**
- **Making good policies to volunteers and NGOs to help farmers in remote areas to produce organic products.**
- **Publishing technical bulletins and magazines on SA.**
- **Formulating good plan for cropping, and seasoning and technical papers on agricultural production and reforestation to the farmers.**