



2nd International Conference on **Agricultural and Rural Development** in Southeast Asia

Makati Shangri-La, Manila, Philippines
12-13 November 2014

Rationale

The agricultural economy and rural sector continue to loom large in the development agenda of member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). In light of this, there is great value in having a regular venue for knowledge and experience sharing within the Southeast Asian region to respond to development challenges confronting the sector. Such a gathering can help inform policymaking in a sustained manner for agricultural and rural development (ARD) at the regional, national and sub-national levels. Knowledge sharing will also help foster wider dissemination and application of good practices by farmers, enterprises and civil society organizations towards improved productivity, efficiency, and effectiveness in their respective realms. In particular, the gathering can also be an important instrument for facilitating various forms of regional cooperation in ARD, especially as the region gears up for closer economic integration via the ASEAN Economic Community to be realized in 2015.

It is in this context that SEARCA will hold the **2nd International Conference on Agricultural and Rural Development (ARD2014)**

focusing on issues, imperatives and initiatives contributing to the theme *"Strengthening Resilience, Equity and Integration in ASEAN Food and Agriculture Systems."* This will build on the first International Conference on ARD in Asia: Ideas, Paradigms, and Policies Three Decades After successfully held in November 2005 in Makati, Philippines, which aimed to draw policy lessons from the major ideas and paradigms that have influenced academic and policy thinking in ARD in the past 30 years. ARD2014 will update this stock taking to cover new knowledge gained in the succeeding ten years, i.e. since 2005, while expanding the conference's scope and participation to be both encompassing and inclusive.

*Strengthening Resilience, Equity,
and Integration in ASEAN
Food and Agriculture Systems*

Objectives and Expected Outputs

The **ARD2014** aims to provide a venue for sharing the wide and diverse knowledge pool on ARD that exists within and beyond the Southeast Asian region. Specific objectives include the following:

1. Highlight creative and innovative technological and practical approaches in the various processes comprising the agricultural system, spanning the entire agricultural value chain from production through to post-harvest, processing, marketing, transport, and logistics;
2. Showcase and derive useful lessons from institutional successes (and failures) in the management of the agricultural system and rural communities, including governance and value chain relationships; and
3. Draw evidence-based policy implications from the knowledge exchange, to guide regional, national, and sub-national policies and initiatives for ARD in the context of intensified regional cooperation and integration.

The Conference is expected to produce useful information about the current situation and gaps on ARD in the region and lead to the identification of policy options for decision-makers or investment opportunities for the private sector. Apart from the Conference Summary Report, monographs and policy briefs will be produced focusing on key policy implications and recommendations towards achieving resilience, inclusiveness, and integration of the agriculture sector in the region.

Invitation for Sponsorship

While the **ARD2014** will be spearheaded by SEARCA, it is envisaged to be undertaken in an inclusive partnership and cooperation with various relevant institutions through co-sponsorships in various forms:

- Direct funding support
- Support in kind: Airline transport for speakers and participants; accommodation for speakers and participants; conference materials and equipment, etc.
- Convening specific Thematic Sessions within the Conference, including identifying topics and corresponding speakers/resource persons and moderators, and taking responsibility for the conduct and documentation of the sponsored session
- Sponsorship of lunches, dinners for participants
- Hosting of field tour of participants
- Others



Participants

The Conference will bring together a wide range of relevant stakeholders primarily coming from (but not necessarily limited to) Southeast Asia. Participants will include agriculture and rural development experts from the academe and research institutions, government policy makers, local government executives and officials, private sector practitioners, representatives of civil society organizations, farmer leaders and practicing farmers, and other interested stakeholders. With the expected diverse nature of the Conference participants, a size of 400 participants is initially expected.

Conference Features

Plenary Sessions
Exhibit
Sponsored Lunches/Dinners

Thematic Sessions
Side Events
Field Tour

Themes and Topics

Achievement of resilience, equity, and regional integration in agriculture and the rural sector across the Southeast Asian region will entail initiatives and interventions along various facets of the rural development challenges facing countries in the region. These span the range of concerns that include productivity at the level of primary production and at the various links of the value chain, sustainability and environmental management, approaches to rural poverty reduction, food security and food safety, institutions and governance, and regional economic integration. Studies and papers will thus be invited for presentation at the conference organized under the following themes, each with a conscious and deliberate effort to address implications on resilience, equity and regional integration.

Productivity Improvement

Plant and Animal Breeding
Aquatic Agricultural Systems
Farm Mechanization/Irrigation and Water Management
Biotechnology and Biosafety

Inclusive Value Chains

Farm Credits
Processing/Value Adding
Logistics System
Inclusive Value Chain of Agricultural Crops

Sustainability and Poverty Reduction

Sustainable Agriculture
Upland Agriculture
Climate Change Adaptation
Agricultural Heritage
Sites and Assets for Sustainability & Food Security

Regional Cooperation and Integration

Regional Food Security Schemes, and Food Reserves, Trade & Investment
Agricultural Trade
Regional/Sub-regional Agricultural Value Chain

Food Security and Food Safety

Food Safety and Nutrition
Disaster Management & Mitigation
Food Security Governance
Plant Health & Agricultural Extension

Institutions & Governance

Clustering and Cooperatives
Land Markets & Land Tenure
Agricultural Policy and Institutional Reforms
ARD Innovation Systems

Special Sessions

Higher Education and Capacity Building
Others

Conference-at-a-Glance

	12 November		13 November		14 November
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Registration	EXHIBIT	Registration	EXHIBIT	FIELD TOUR (Optional)
8:30 - 9:30	Opening Program		PLENARY II <i>In Quest of a Food Secure ASEAN</i> (Panel Discussion - DL Umali Achievement Awardees in Agricultural Development)		
9:30 - 10:30	Opening of Exhibit/Networking		PARALLEL SESSION C <i>6 Parallel Sessions</i>		
10:30 - 11:30	PLENARY I <i>Resilience, Equity, and Regional Integration in Southeast Asian Agriculture</i> (4 Speakers)		Lunch		
11:30 - 12:00 PM	Lunch		PARALLEL SESSION D <i>6 Parallel Sessions / Special Sessions</i>		
12:00 - 1:30	PARALLEL SESSION A <i>6 Parallel Sessions</i>		Synthesis/Closing Program		
1:30 - 2:30	PARALLEL SESSION B <i>6 Parallel Sessions</i>				
2:30 - 3:30					
3:30 - 4:30					
4:30 - 5:30					
5:30 - 7:00					
7:00 PM	Cocktails and Dinner				

For further information and inquiries, please contact:

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