



Event Documentation

PROCEEDINGS **Regional Consultation on** **Agricultural Research for** **Development**

September 10-11, 2012
Royal Princess Hotel, Bangkok,
Thailand

Co-Organizers



Asian Farmers Association for
Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)



Asia-Pacific Association of Agriculture
Research Institutions (APAARI)



Global Forum for Agriculture Research
(GFAR)

with local host



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Background and Rationale of the Consultation

A. Rationale

1. The second GCARD , dubbed GCARD 2012, will be held this coming October 29-November 1, at Uruguay. The international conference will provide opportunity for all sectors and regions to report their activities since 2010, and to agree on collective actions and next steps in implementation of the GCARD Roadmap.
2. The Asian Farmers' Association (AFA) , a regional alliance of national farmers' organizations, currently having 12 member organizations in 10 countries in Southeast, South and East Asia, representing 11M small scale women and men farmers, have been invited to GCARD 2012. Knowing the strategic value of effective AR4D for resource-poor farmers, AFA would like to prepare for its interventions in GCARD2, to ensure that the farmers' perspectives and experiences are really brought to the discussions; and its outputs beneficial to the farmers.
3. Part of these preparations entail a full understanding of the GCARD Roadmap by our members. Only then can we be able to answer the three key questions for GCARD2: Where are we today? How are we making these changes happen? What impacts can we show?

B. Description of Main Activity

The activity is a 1.5 day consultation on AR4D agenda, to be attended by around 30 participants from AFA member organizations, APAARI and GFAR officials. The results of the consultation will be AFA's inputs to events involving AR4D issues, particularly the GCARD 2012 discussions. The results will also be the beginning of a process that will aim to strengthen partnerships on common concerns and interests between APAARI, GFAR in the region and at the country levels.

C. Objectives of the Consultation - At the end of the consultation the participants are able to:

1. appreciate the value of GCARD Roadmap and able to situate the role of the sector (farmers) in putting the Road Map into action

2. know the key roles of other stakeholders in the AR4D and GFAR processes
3. discuss the status (developments, initiatives) as well as the challenges encountered by farmers in making collective action work with other AR4D stakeholders, at both national and regional levels
4. come up with recommendations on the kind of partnerships for AR4D that has be to built/strengthened at national, regional and international levels to carry out crucial actions contained in the Road Map.

D. Expected Outputs

1. documentation of the proceedings
2. a summary of the highlights of the meeting, to guide AFA representatives to the GCARD2012 meeting when they participate in the discussions/sessions.
3. concrete action points which AFA, APAARI and GFAR can act on in the next two years.

Proceedings

Regional Consultation on Agricultural Research for Development

Registration started at 8am, September 10, 2012.

September 10, 2012

Welcome Remarks

The consultation formally started at 9pm with the welcome remarks of Sophal Uon, Chairperson of AFA, and Dr. Raj Paroda, Chairperson of APAARI.

Mr. Sophal Uon, Chairperson, AFA :

This consultation is another step for the development of AFA. The consultation meeting will bring more research activities that will lead to agricultural development and bring more cooperation among us with new partners. We also hope to learn more about the experiences of other members . The consultation will be very helpful for farmers to enable themselves to be researchers and scientists to be development.

Dr. Raj Paroda, Chairperson, APAARI:

It is a great pleasure to be here with you today. I consider this a very important consultation.

APAARI is a regional association of agricultural research institutions established in 1990 by FAO with regional office in bangkok. Most of the countries represented here --- your national research systems --are part of APAARI. We have conducted a number of researchers and have compiled it in our CDs. We have more than 45 successful practices in the region.

Research systems not only involve researchers but also farmers and NGOs. We have been involving farmers associations from the beginning. APAARI has one seat for farmers associations, occupied previously by IFAP, through Raul Montemayor. It is now currently vacant, now we are looking for a replacement.

We have a Bangkok Declaration, its publication is distributed here. Its three messages are:

The first message is that the needs of small farmers are kept into consideration and that it must mean for them and must ensure that

we are together. The second message is that we need to re orient our research from commodities to farming systems. The third message is that we should have the involvement of all stakeholders in the planning and implementation of agriculture research for development. These messages have been discussed in the Global Conference on Agriculture Research for Development or GCARD. The GCARD roadmap is on our website.

The objective of our meeting here is based on the objectives of the upcoming GCARD2 meeting in Uruguay. I am the chairperson of GCARD 2. One of the main topics there is on "innovations". What innovations can be replicable? We hope that during these consultations we can come up with our own views. We hope to discuss issues with regards to foresight. What should be the priority of farmers? We hope to discuss what kind of partnerships will be built. Then what kind of capacities do we need? AT GCARD2, we are also organizing a market place where the work of many farmers in linking to markets will be shared.

APAARI is a neutral platform, It is non-political, and is not seating at the driving seat. What you will discuss in this consultation is entirely up to you. We are with you, behind you. Your inputs will be raised in global processes. Not all of you can go there, but you can be represented.

We need to strengthen FOs and see that they come together. the knowledge which should be available should be documented. We can help you in jointly publishing your innovations.

I am chairman of one of the research institutions of one of the progressive states in India. we conducted a consultation on farmer led innovations. You can see in the publication how farmers came out to share their work. We need to properly document these innovations.

In this consultation, let us also see how farmers can help implement the GCARD roadmap. What responsibilities can FO's take, what support do they need, how can they be equally important partner with APAARI?

Introduction of Participants

The participants introduced their names, organization and position in it, as well as gave one important lesson or learning they acquired in the last week.

Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairman, India Farmers Forum: We had visitors from Europe last week and I learned from them the great amount of subsidies being given to European farmers.

Som, Chairman, National Land Rights Forum, Nepal:

Jagat, Executive Director, Community Self Reliance Center, Nepal:

Both of us attended a workshop on impact indicators on strong farmers organizations two days ago.

Mr. Kim, Vice President, Korea Advanced Farmers Federation (KAFF):

Oh, Staff, KAFF: Both Mr. Kim and I would like to learn about the work of developing countries

Ran, translator, KAFF and Women Advanced Farmers Federation (WAFF):

Yatani, Board Member, Ainokai, Japan: Before coming here, I acted as a fortune teller in a classic drama. I learned that this drama is also effective for 21st century farmers. In traditional knowledge, there is some important knowledge about relationship with nature. So we should re-learn this knowledge. So we should ask the "old" farmer.

Sopheap Pan, Executive Director, FNN:

Sophal, President, Farmer and Nature Net (FNN, Cambodia): Since last week, our farmers were facing drought. However, with innovations from Prolinnova, we are prepared to adapt to climate change. We were also able to establish a cooperative for organic rice and to enable our products to access the market. Last week also I attended an ASEAN meeting and I learned three points: first how to enhance agri production; second, how to access credit; third, how to empower women. I also attended a Second event which was a joint workshop on how to monitor and evaluate the impact of a capacity building project of FOs under the Farmers Fighting Poverty Program. Today, we are going to learn more how farmers can have research for self development and to help other farmer members esp in FNN.

Shui, translator, TaiwanDHRRA:

Mr. Tsai, Chairperson, Taiwan Wax Apple Development Association (TWADA): TWADA is building a new plan to expand markets at domestic and international levels, and we are learning a lot from this action.

Yvoan, International Expert, Vietnam Farmers Union (VNFU): Last week, we had a forum with 50 participants from NGOs and farmers being seriously affected with natural disasters. We are starting agricultural insurance. We are piloting this insurance in 21 provinces. But as we start this insurance, farmers are facing these difficulties that is why we invited representatives from multi stakeholders. We want to learn how to implement this insurance in a more practical way. Last week too I attended the Global Conference on Agriculture held in Hanoi. I learned that organic farming is not impossible if we support this carefully . I learned that organic farming can feed not only family but also community and is also good for climate change adaptation. I will bring this learning to our leaders.

I also attended a third event, which is the ASEAN meeting. We talked about agriculture productivity and how it will be friendly to environment. I think AR4D is very important for us to think how we can apply this research. We have many researches and many results , how can farmers be involved in these researches?

Efren, Vice President, PAKISAMA (Philippines): I live in the province which is 400 kilometers away from our national office. So, before coming here, I got some updates from our staff in the national office. I learned about the following activities of PAKISAMA national : we are focused on looking for high prices for organic products produced in the Philippines. We are also focused on asking government to support the transition to organic farming. Also, we had dialogue with government on the agrarian reform implementation. Pakisama also has expanded its members to other parts in Luzon.

Ika, International Relations Officer, Aliansi Petani Indonesia(API) Rifai, Head, Production and Business Unit, API: The past week, we have been doing production and access to market for certain crops and fruits . We facilitated the process of negotiation with the company and farmers involving 4000++hectares of land . At the policy level, we did advocacy on government procurement of rice and rice price . We have developed 5 new varieties of rice. I learned from these activities that research by official research institutions does not have real impact on the farmers. What should be the real research to be done by all the stakeholders? On the opposite, our research conducted by farmers -- the farmers are put to jail because the seeds they produced are considered "illegal".

Raj, Executive Secretary , APAARI: Last week we organized a meeting of progressive farmers, including women. We discussed about empowerment, access to knowledge. I learned that we need to see a proper knowledge dissemination system so that farmers can be empowered through this , help them be linked with the market , esp because now, it's the middlemen who reap the most benefit. I learned we should have timely value addition, to bring farmers together , and bring a sector of private level entrepreneurs. there is a need for farmers to diversify their agriculture.

Thomas Price, Senior Officer, Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR): I just arrived from Kigali, Africa where I attended a meeting on AR4D for post-conflict countries. We were in Rwanda where a country experienced a genocide 20 years ago. Now they have GDP of 8-13% , mainly from agriculture. Government saw to it that farmers get what they need.

Lany, Policy Advocacy Officer, AFA:

Esther, Secretary General, AFA: We also attended meeting on impact indicators for strong farmers' organizations, which will guide us in our work for empowerment.

Objectives and Flow of the Consultation

Esther Penunia, Secretary General, AFA

With the help of a powerpoint, Esther presented the objectives and flow of the consultation. She then enlisted the cooperation of AFA members to act as host teams (to act as keepers of time, alertness and order during the assigned session).

1. The context we are in: We are faced with the interlinked issues on poverty, food and nutrition security, financial crisis, energy crisis and climate change. There is a growing call to invest in sustainable, ecological, organic agriculture with family farmers. There is a need for like minded individuals and sectors to work together. And there is a need for the farmers sector to get involved in decision making processes.
2. With this context in mind, we are here for a consultation on agriculture research for development. We have four objectives during this

consultation. First, we hope to be aware of and appreciate the value of the GCARD roadmap and able to situate the role of the farmer sector in putting the good points of the RoadMap into action. Second, we also want to know the key roles of other stakeholders in the AR4D and GFAR processes. Third, to discuss the status (developments, initiatives) as well as the challenges encountered by farmers in making collective action work with other AR4D stakeholders, at both national and regional levels. And fourth, come up with recommendations on the kind of partnerships for AR4D that has be to built/strengthened at national, regional and international levels to carry out crucial actions contained in the Road Map.

3. Our expected outputs in this consultation are the following:
 - Documentation of the proceedings and its highlights ---- guide for inputs and interventions in national, regional and international processes
 - Concrete action points which AFA, APAARI and GFAR can act on in the next two years

4. As regards the program flow, we will have the following:
 - first, a discussion on the GCARD roadmap : what it is, how do we view and understand it?
 - second, we will Share our initiatives, challenges and lessons in AR4D
 - third, we will have a planning session, to be done on the 2nd day where we hope to answer the following questions : what skills, capacities and experiments do we need? What are the possible AR4D actions that can meet these needs? What are the possible partnerships that can be forged to meet these needs ?

The GCARD Roadmap

Thomas Price , Senior Officer, GFAR

With the help of a powerpoint, Thomas presented the GCARD Roadmap (see Annex 1) . Salient points of his presentation include:

1. GFAR was established in 1996 by both FAO and IFAD, and is being hosted by FAO. It is a multi-stakeholder forum composed of regional research fora, such as APAARI, CGIAR systems such as IRRI, FAO, IFAD, NGOs and FOs which were previously represented by IFAP.

It is aimed to promote partnership and strategic alliances. Global demographic, environmental, economic and social trends, such as persistent hunger and poverty, and the growing recognition of the wisdom of local knowledge and local science have compelled GFAR to look beyond research and beyond academia, to look beyond production in agriculture and rural areas and rural areas. Thus, GFAR has positioned itself as a multi stakeholder catalyst for advocacy for change, transforming institutions for the future, a venue for inter-regional collective action.

2. The GCARD Roadmap was established during a multi stakeholder consultation held in Montpellier, France in 2010, dubbed the first Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development. The Roadmap provides pathways for Action to transform and strengthen agricultural innovation systems by all involved.
3. There are four objectives of the GCARD process : Facilitate alignment of the research agenda with development needs of the small-scale and resource-poor; Advocate for more effective investment for AR4D; Facilitate dialogue between diverse stakeholders on innovation pathways; Promote the integration of the international agricultural research systems with national systems. Corollary to these, there are four basic questions that GFAR wanted to address : Why hasn't existing knowledge better benefited smallholder farmers? Why have many apparently effective technologies not been adopted? Why isn't agricultural innovation better valued in development? How can we build more collective action towards systemic and extensive development impacts? If we want to have the desired development impact or outcome, knowledge and technology is essential but not sufficient. There must also be enabling environment and inputs as well as policies promoting AR4D.
4. The GCARD Roadmap has 6 elements: Inclusively define key AR4D priorities and actions, driven by evolving development; Invest in equitable partnership & accountability among all stakeholders; Achieve increased investments in resources for AR4D to meet development demands; Develop required institutional capacities for agricultural knowledge; Relate agricultural innovation to development programs and policies; Involve stakeholders in demonstration and reporting of outcomes.

5. How are we turning the GCARD road map into practice? This will be the main question during the GCARD2, to be held at Punta del Este, Uruguay, on Oct 29-Nov 1, 2012. The theme will be "Delivering the Change: Foresight and Partnership for Innovation and Impact on Smallholder Livelihoods". There will be three main challenges to be addressed by GCARD2: Take forward the priorities of the GCARD Road Map: Foresight (prioritization), Partnerships for Impact and Capacity Development; Respond to key development needs: food and nutrition security, rural livelihoods, environmental resilience; and Determine progress by all sectors against the GCARD Road Map Objectives.

6. Farmers in GCARD2 will have their own priorities, and from what have been observed in the past, the priorities will include: farmers' empowerment in research, farmers' rights and genetic resources; market access and integration; gender- follow up to the Global conference on women in agriculture; biodiversity and agroecology; climate change and conditions for local innovation and enterprise. During this consultation we hope farmers in Asia can identify your key priorities also for GCARD2.

An open forum followed after the presentation.

API: How does GCARD identify the priorities?

Thomas: GFAR secretariat is small. The priorities are defined by the membership. All regional fora are now asked to get multi-stakeholdership. GFAR provides opportunities for stakeholders to work and partner together. In GCARD, the strong participation is from the research community.

Sharing Session on FO Initiatives on AR4D

Each FO then presented, mostly in powerpoint, their experience in AR4D, highlighting their initiatives and the challenges they face as they work to achieve food and nutrition security, develop and enhance their capacities, influence government priorities and share agricultural knowledge with their members.

Farmer and Nature Net (Cambodia)

Sophal Uon and Sopheap Pan

Sophal and Sopheap presented a powerpoint on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Cambodia, which was presented earlier by Dr. Sang

Yaing Koma, a lecture he gave as one of this year's Ramon Magsaysay awardee.

1. Rice production in Cambodia - In Cambodia, 60 percent of the population (around 1.8 million families) is rice farmers. 2.5 million hectares of land are devoted to rice production, 2 million hectares of which are rain-fed. Rice production is around 8 million tons, with an average national yield of 2.8 tons per hectare. The yield of rain-fed rice lands is 1.5 to 2.5 tons per hectare (non SRI fields).
2. Conventional approaches in rice intensification - Conventional approaches in rice intensification rely on introducing high yielding or improved varieties, prescription of fertilizer recommendations and pesticides. Farmers act as recipients of technology transferred by research through extension services. This approach leads to increasing dependency of farmers on external support and inputs, losing appreciation of the local resources, and decreasing self-confidence and self-reliance.
3. Alternative system of rice intensification - SRI is an alternative approach to rice intensification. It recognizes the huge natural potential of the rice plant and the innovation potential of farmers in growing rice. It focuses on changing the mind-set of farmers and developing methods or management practices that create a conducive environment for every individual rice plant to grow and to get good plants to grow in this environment. It supports farmer-led experimentation and extension to evaluate and disseminate the most appropriate methods and/or management practices.
4. SRI development in Cambodia in brief - In 2000, there were only around 28 farmers using SRI. By 2012, there were already around 200,000 SRI farmers. They have recorded a yield increase of 50 to 150 percent, lower cost of seeds and fertilizers of more than 70 percent, and yields of more than 6 tons per hectare under rain-fed conditions using traditional seed varieties. Using traditional seed varieties, the natural potential of rice plant is realized. Tiller development and root growth of rice are improved with traditional seed varieties and SRI methods.
5. What is special about SRI? - SRI represents a change of belief on how rice grows, as well as changes in the existing ways/methods of growing rice by focusing on helping rice plants to utilize their full

natural potential. The combination of improvements in simple practices leads to great results through a synergy effect. More improvements of more practices lead to better results.

6. Most important changes from traditional to SRI practices - The most important changes in planting practices that happen with a shift to SRI is as follows: flooded fields to non-flooded wet/dry fields; use of old seedling to use of younger seedling; use of many seedlings to use of one good seedling; forceful transplanting to careful; deep-rooted planting to shallow rooted planting; unequal spacing to equal/row planting; no regular weeding to early and frequent weeding; and use of chemical fertilizers to use of compost. Combining all these practices creates a synergy effect.
7. The 3 most important new practices in SRI - There are three new practices in SRI that are most important: (1) keeping the fields from not being permanently flooded during vegetative stage (mainly only wet); (2) planting only one good seedling; and (3) planting in square patterns or in rows, and the distance (space) between each plant varies according to the age of the seedling or the time of planting (for seasonal rice), and the water level in the fields.
8. SRI involves transplanting young seedlings with care, early and frequent weeding, and selecting good seeds for the new season.
9. Outcomes/results of the change in practices- The most notable outcomes or results of the change in practices include: use of more seeds to less seeds; use of more water to less water; use of more chemical fertilizers to less or zero chemical fertilizers; use of less compost to use of more compost; more workload; low yield to higher yield; low net income to higher net income; and lastly, farmers gain more self-confidence and creativity and more power to control the technology.
10. Key activities to promote SRI- There are some key activities that are important in promoting SRI. These include: (1) starting with a small group of innovative farmers to experiment on a small plot; (2) exposure visit to SRI farmers (farmers, government officials, NGOs and other) to let people see before believing in SRI; (3) training of trainers and extension agents on how to work with farmers on SRI; and (4) training SRI farmers to become SRI farmer promoters.

B. Open Forum

Raj: SRI is labor intensive. In some states in India where there is more labor, this is important. In states where there is less labor, this is not a choice. In some rice varieties, they do not flood the fields. This practice of not flooding the fields is now picking up.

Thomas: How do you select and develop seeds?

Sophal: We train farmers how to develop their own seeds.

Esther: What is the experience of farmers who are shifting to SRI in terms of yield while in transition?

Sopheap: When the SRI was first introduced to him, he did not believe. But they started to experiment and applied the 12 principles. In his experiment, he records his expense of inputs and yields and make comparisons. In the first year of shifting, the yield drops. but for the next years, the yield continues to improve especially if all the SRI principles are applied.

Taiwan Wax Apple Development Association

Mr. Shun Te Tsai and Ms. Shui Hui

A. The salient points of the powerpoint presentation were as follows:

1. The Taiwan Wax Apple Development Association (TWADA) is composed of of 380 farmers (Men: 260 / Women:120). Its vision is to promote the cultivation and management technique of Wax apple and to develop the marketing channel for domestic and export market.
2. TWADA's primary partner for Agricultural research and development is the Council of Agriculture (C.O.A).It is the competent authority on the agricultural, forestry, fishery, animal husbandry and food affairs in Taiwan. Its responsibilities include guiding and supervising provincial and municipal offices in these areas.
3. Currently there are a total of sixty offices under the COA (twenty-three organizational units and thirty-seven affiliated offices

under these units). More particularly, TWADA worked with the Kaohsiung District Agricultural Research and Extension Station, C.O.A. The Station is one of the seven agricultural research and extension stations in Taiwan. The Station consists of five research units (Crop Improvement Section, Crop Environment Section, Agricultural Extension Section, Chinan Branch Station and Penghu Branch Station) and three administration units. Their research on tropical fruit crops focuses on the breeding and cultural practices improvement of Wax Apple, Indian jujube, litchi, mango, papaya, and guava.

4. In addition to government agency, TWADA also worked with NPUST, located in Pingtung, which occupies 285 hectares, considered the largest and most beautiful campus in the nation. It has enjoyed the reputation of being a "National Park University." It educated innumerable scholars for the crews of the widely recognized Taiwan Agricultural Teams and for domestic companies.
5. On TWADA's research initiatives: TWADA, together with its partners, focused its research initiative on wax apple particularly on the production, marketing and human resource development. The objective of the research is to increase the productivity of wax apple and to assist wax apple farmers to secure Certification of ISO and explore the marketing channel for domestic and export market. The human resource development was geared towards education and better incentives to attract the best talent at all levels and to retain trained researchers and advisers. Most importantly, it is geared towards encouraging young people into agriculture. In Taiwan as in most agricultural countries, agriculture is an ageing and undervalued profession and our wax apple farmers are too old and cannot immediately adapt to the new technology or knowledge.
6. On capacity building and extension services: TWADA in cooperation with COA, NPUST and other partners conduct capacity building activities which includes the following:
 - Sustainability of production and food health.
 - Upgrade production technology. (Processed foods and Organic products)
 - Financial reward systems

- Raise the Wax apple farmers' revenue.
 - Field coaching and farmers exchange visit
7. Facilitating factors in making TWADA's research initiatives successful were:
- Strong linkages with our partners and farmers.
 - Government policy and funding support
 - The university (NPUST) provided good mentoring and education programs.
8. One important lesson of TWADA is that farmers are willing to do everything if it will increase farmers' incomes and improve the quality of life.

B. Open Forum:

Rifai: Who is supporting the farmers ?

Mr. Tsai: Both government and farmers' groups are supporting the individual farmers.

The formation of TWADA was facilitated by government. Research experiments were done at the farmers' fields.

George: When farmers start their business, government give grants. Even when they lose, they are given some support by government. The rice policy from Cambodia – that was 30-40 years ago in Taiwan. Now we are developed, we are overproducing. The government has encouraged the farmer not to produce rice, and subsidize rice farmers who are not producing.

Mr Kim: Taiwan is still divided into three parts with definite crops per part – north is for fruits. how about the center and the south parts?

Mr. Tsai: Before rice is the main crop in the island 30 years ago.

But now each district has now developed its main product .Fruits in southern area. Many districts have developed outstanding products, such as waxapple in Pintung.

Ainokai (Japan)

Mr. Yatani

A. The salient points of the powerpoint presentation were as follows:

1. Ainokai's initiative on agricultural development for 2011 and 2012 focused mainly on capacity building, research and networking .
2. In terms of capacity building activities, the following trainings were conducted:
 - a. Seminar on Sustainable Life Techniques focusing on original wood Burning Kitchen Stove Making and economics of happiness and localization.
 - b. Night Seminar on Organic Farming in Nagoya City targeting on "Wanna be" farmers living and working in urban city of Nagoya.
 - c. Food processing techniques like bread baking, pickles making, Japanese Miso and Soy source making etc
 - d. Kitchen Stove Tasting Event focusing on Cooking Rice with wood Burning Kitchen Stove
 - e. Special course for Soil and Seedling Making Techniques
 - f. Organic Farming and Sustainable way of living which included learning Gandhi spirit by Spinning cotton balls.
 - g. Development of Transition Town. Followed by the transition town symposium held last June 10, a group of people got together to transform Iga into a transition town. The first meeting was held on July 8 in Ainou. They are preparing for setting up a local currency in Iga area to promote local economy and network of citizens.
3. In terms of research, Ainokai conducted a Consciousness Survey of Ainou members, supporters, and newsletter subscribers. The objective of the survey was to know about members' views, thoughts and opinions towards Ainoukai. They sent questionnaires to about 1200 people and 84 people responded. The result was cited in the Ainou newsletter with the comments of their board members. Ainokai intends to reflect the result of the survey in their future operation.

4. In terms of networking and responding to the result of the survey conducted, Ainoukai is now holding member meetings all over Japan. They expect that this meeting can create, or revive, solid linkages between members and Ainoukai. In addition, Ainokai also attended several AFA activities including the Farmers Forum in Italy, Rio+20 in Brazil and the General Assembly of AFA in Vietnam. They also joined in the No nuke demonstration and contributed in collecting petition against Nuke energy. They also joined Training workshop for JAS certification and regular Screening committee meeting of JAS for organic certification.

B. *Open Forum*

Ika: How does Ainokai work with the consumers ?

Yatani: We have organic shops in Nagoya and Osaka.

Mr. Kim: All the compost and organic fertilizers are very expensive in Korea. How do Ainokai members handle this big price?

Yatani: Ainokai members raise animals and fertilizers, and they make compost and organic fertilizers from the dungs of their animals. So they do not have to buy the fertilizer.

Yvoan: I have two questions. First, in the affected areas of the nuclear disaster, how many members in how many provinces are now working ? Second, I would like to know the organic certification process of your organization – is the organic product accredited by your government or by your organization?

Yatani: It is government who accredited organic certification to Ainokai. Ainokai regular members who are organic farmers number 300, living all over Japan. On the members who are affected by nuclear accident --- some members stopped their farming. Some of them left for other areas not affected and started organic farming.

Jagat: Are Ainokai members small farmers? or landless farmers?

Yatani: Japan, after World War II made genuine land reform. Theoretically, there is no landlord in Japan now. All farmers got the land from the land reform program of government. Most of Ainokai members are landowners, but not big scale. In the south district area, farmers own only an average of one hectare per family. In the northern and eastern parts of the country, farmers own on the average 2 hectares because of the difference in land productivity.

Korea Advanced Farmers Federation and Women Advanced Farmer Federation (South Korea)

Mr. Kim and Ms. Ran Choi

A. Salient points of the powerpoint presentation include:

1. KAFF and WAFF are focused on advocacy. We have a research department. The government also has a big Research and Development Agenda for agriculture, and usually wconducts agriculture experiments for a period of five years. The research results are disseminated to the farmers through extension and training.
2. KAFF is more focused on policy advocacy on farmers rights and development. KAFF has held 18 meetings with Parliament, and now 8 bills, which KAFF has submitted to Parliament, are in motion. Some of these bills are:
 - a bill to exempt young men in rural areas from military service.
 - a bill to exempt farmers from certain tax
 - prepared policy proposal to each presidential candidate e.g. Free Trade Analysis, 1% corporate tax on import be given to rural areas

B. Open Forum

Rifai: We are interested in your engagement with Congress to produce some bills that will affect farmers. In indonesia, farmers are also involved in drafting some bills. How can you be effective in making bills for the protection of farmers?

Ran: We have congresspersons who are allies of the farmers' organizations. In areas where farmers are the majority of the population, the farmers conduct research in their own level. In that area, the congressman is aware that the farmers hold the votes and thus should listen to the farmers.

Thomas: What are your ways of encouraging youth?

Ran: The government is giving a start up capital soft loan of 200,000 usd for young people who want to join the farming. This capital loan is payable in 15 years. After 5 years, and the person decide to really go into farming, the government will give 80,000 usd grant. Also now, we

have a bill pending in Congress to exempt young farmers in rendering military service.

Jagat: Is your research done by experts outside or in your farmers organization?

Ran: The eight agenda/bills are drafted through many meetings with many sectors, involving some lawyers, academia.

Jagat: Do you have partnerships with other FOs? how are you working with them?

Ran: There are other national farmers associations as there are associations specifically for crops and fruits. Yes, we work with them on specific issues.

Ajay: Is there a limit to how much land a farmer can own?

Ran: Agrarian reform has been done before. Now there is no boundary how much a farmer can own. If a farmer owns less than 10 hectares, they can have priority in some government programs and incentives for agriculture.

India Farmers Forum

Ajay

A. Salient points of the powerpoint presentation include:

1. We decided to focus on policy advocacy because our policy makers do not consult and listen to us. We are publishing a magazine with 10,000 (?) copies, we have discussions on food security, on foreign direct investment, on fossil fuel use. We would like policy makers to decide on what is really important for farmers. We are trying to increase awareness.
2. We receive no government funding. We are fully funded by farmer organizations and farmer cooperatives.
3. On GCARD:
 - a. Every developing country farmer wants farmer profitability. Once we focus on this, then there will be automatic increase in agricultural productivity. We also want the GCARD process

to advocate for self reliance of the farmer. Farmers should not be dependent on subsidies for the rest of their lives. We also want GCARD to focus on the processes on building scenario. e.g. what will happen in 2015 if we try to use fossil fuels? We also advocate that along with organic practices, the latest technology is developed and taught. Farming has to be a marriage of science and convention. There can be no one solution in the whole world.

- b. Funding obviously is a problem. And because of the increase in the prices of food, funding for agriculture is increasing. We are advocating private investment in agriculture, as public investment has been very low. For example, the BT cotton is pushed by private companies, and now we are exporting cotton.
- c. On agriculture research, as of now this has not yet translated for better conditions as it takes long time to take effect. We know a lot of research data is available. We should transfer this agriculture research results to the farm level. We need to transfer good practices to the farmer. We are focusing on input optimization, and would like more researches on this.

4. We are ready to learn from the experiences of other farmers.

B. *Open Forum*

Yatani: What is the land ownership of your farmers?

Ajay: There is a limit of 12 hectares that one family can own, classified as privately-owned land.

Aliansi Petani Indonesia Rifai and Ika Krishnayanti

APi made a presentation on one of its initiative called: Production settlement and strengthening the producers' position in the agricultural production chains by conducting the program of peasant organizations strengthening and collective marketing.

A. *Salient points of the powerpoint presentation includes:*

1. The project addresses strategic issues such as:
 - Identification the profile of the organization, including strengths, weaknesses and potential resources owned or controlled by farmer organizations to develop the value chain of production promoted.
 - The increasing peasant organizations capacity for improving the quality, quantity and continuity of the products that meet the market demand/conditions required by the buyers (quality control).
 - Development of an agricultural business units (cooperative) and collective marketing
 - Strengthening the peasant organizations capacity at the national level and district level.
 - Learning, resource sharing and knowledge sharing centers for the development of production value chain of peasant organizations
 - Participation of Women farmers in organization and production value chain

2. Objectives - The project aims to: (1) create stronger peasant organizations, self-supporting and accountable to be able to facilitate peasant family so they become possible to access the agriculture economic resources in rural areas and increasing their bargaining position on the value chain of commodity developed; and, (2) increase the role of peasant in the process of creating the Government policy through collective marketing and peasant organizations strengthening.

3. Specific Objectives- Specifically, it aims to: (1) increase the income of the peasant organizations which are the members of Indonesian Peasants Alliance (API) through developing collective marketing in five selected districts; (2) increase peasant organizations' bargaining position in the agricultural commodity chains developed by the members of API; and (3) develop learning and knowledge centres that originated from peasant experience on collective marketing and peasant organization strengthening.

4. Achievements- The project has achieved some notable outcomes as follows: (1) increase of production and income of member's small-skill-farmer business (cooperative); (2) development of good bargaining position in every value chain of agricultural commodity by peasant organizations; and (3) peasant organization have the knowledge and experience sharing among members regarding collective marketing system and peasant organization strengthening.

5. Beneficiaries- The beneficiaries of the project are as follows:
 - Beneficiary 1: Lumajang Peasant Union
 - » Product : Banana (*pisang Emas Kirana*)
 - » Location: Lumajang District, East Java Province
 - » Total members : 3,000 farmer households.
 - » Total production: 400 ton/month.

 - Beneficiary 2: ORTABUN Peasant Organization.
 - » Product : cocoa
 - » Location : Banggai District, Central Sulawesi Province
 - » Total members: 2,500 farmer households.
 - » Total production: 50 ton/month.

 - Beneficiary 3: Jambi Peasant Union (PPJ)
 - » Product : duku fruit (*Lansium domesticum*)
 - » Total members: 17,000 farmer households.
 - » Total production: 500 -1,000 ton/season.

 - Beneficiary 4: Jembrana Pesant Union
 - » Product : cocoa
 - » Location: Jembrana District, Bali Province
 - » Total members: 3,000 farmer households.
 - » Total production: 80 ton/month

 - Benficiary 5: Boyolali Organic Rice Peasant Alliance (APPOLI)
 - » Product : Organic Rice
 - » Location: Boyolali Distric, Central Java Province
 - » Total members: 3,000 farmer households
 - » Total Production: 1,125 ton/season

B. *Open Forum*

Thomas: Are you doing added value to your cacao? For example, chocolates in Europe are from Ghana.

Rifai: At the beginning, the farmers are not interested in planting cacao anymore because of the many pest infestation that occurred in 2000. They were cutting down the cacao trees and plant other trees. Later on, they found a way to reduce pest infestation and learned the technique of the culture of cacao tree. Now they are interested to plant cacao again. Before it takes 5 years for a cacao plant to grow. With the replanting system and grafting, the tree starts flowering at eight month. Then we think about the middlemen. In Bali, we facilitate farmers to have direct access to market – to the manufacturer of chocolate, who then exports the product to USA, Japan, and Sweden. There is now improvement in the income of the farmers. Now we consolidated the cacao farmers into one entity of collective farming. The impact : price of fermented cacao is 1.6-1.8 usd. After the collective marketing, the price is 2.2-2.3 usd per kilo, depending on the exchange rate.

Tsai: Any value addition , say into chocolate powder /flour?

Rifai: We are just starting. After the collective marketing, we can start value addition.

PAKISAMA (Philippines)

Efren Arroyo

PAKISAMA highlighted the experience of one of its members – the Pecuaría Development Cooperative, Inc (PDCI) whose various partnerships helped them achieved many of our their accomplishments as farmers , such as being one of the top agricultural cooperatives in the country and the biggest single, local supplier of organic rice in the mainstream market. It first showed a 7-minute video on Pecuria then followed it up with more explanation, focused on partnerships. Efren is one of the leaders of PDCI.

A. *Salient points of the presentation includes:*

1. The first partnership that was cultivated was among farmers. There were several groups in our community but they were not working together. A professional farmer federation, KOSOG-PAKISAMA, assisted PDCI by deploying a professional community

organizer. Through the community organizing approach, a group was formed composed of 426-member farmers who later formed as a farmers' cooperative.

2. The second partnership that was cultivated, as a farmers organization, was with the Department of Agrarian Reform, the government agency tasked to give us control and ownership over 900 hectares of land under the government's agrarian reform program. PDCI finally got their land after four years of struggle and negotiations.

Because we, farmers, have gained control over the land, we were able to decide on what to plant and where to sell our produce, and thus have more incentives to produce better. But we did not have enough production capital. It was difficult to get production credit from government since we did not have track record yet. PDCI asked a partner NGO network, PhilDHARRA, who loaned us with initial production capital needs. But many of us are former farmworkers and knew very little about agriculture technology. Thus, we cultivated further our partnership with PAKISAMA, a national farmers federation, who taught us integrated, diversified, organic farming system and trained farmer-technicians among our members. PAKISAMA was working in partnership with scientists from a state-owned Agriculture University and taught us how to breed rice and produce organic fertilizers. Soon, PDCI farmers found themselves becoming also scientists, testing and finally succeeding, after ten years, in breeding commercial varieties for our organic rice.

3. Next challenge was where to sell organic rice. PDCI wanted a better price for rice so we partnered with an NGO (UMFI) which became our marketing institution and in time made our organic rice prominent in 300 malls and outlets. Our (PDCI) members were happy because they were able to buy their palay at higher prices which their cooperative milled and sold to their partner marketing NGO. We further diversified our business, produced organic fertilizers and sold them to members and other farmers in the locality. Later we started to do contract-growing for established poultry processors. All these partnerships combined made PDCI and our members become more viable food producers.

4. On Challenges in Partnerships – We in PDCI developed our partnerships with various agencies at different periods of our 22-year history. We describe the nature of our partnerships as principled and critical. We regard ourselves as independent and autonomous from third party organizations such as government, CSOs, and businesses. Sometimes we quarrel especially with some government officials who thought of partnerships as another name for cooptation and were not taking us seriously. But by and large, we had very productive partnerships over the years and we look forward to higher level of partnerships to push our common development agenda in the coming years.
5. On Key Lessons and Recommendations- Based on PDCI experience, PAKISAMA has three most important lessons and recommendations.
 - a. First, on relevance. Agriculture research partnerships are most relevant if it is people-justice-centered and focused on the needs of the primary actors, in this case, the small holder producers. Control and ownership over land, seeds, sustainable agriculture technologies, and market are very important to small farmers. Thus, agricultural researches that will help speed up the process of acquiring these factors of production and exchange are the ones urgently needed. Farmers thus recommend for governments to seriously implement agrarian reform and sustainable agriculture programs that provide necessary impetus for farmer-led agri-researches.
 - b. Second, on institutional arrangements. Small-scale farmers need not only technical researches but the deployment of community organizers and networkers as well, in significant numbers, who will catalyze the formation of viable farmers' organizations who will engage the various institutions of government, CSOs, academe, and business in the various aspects of agriculture development. Researches can only be relevant if institutions are established, functional and sharing knowledge and resources. Farmers recommend to include items in various agriculture research budget, the support to the deployment of community organizers and networkers focused on sustainable agriculture promotion and extension .

- c. Finally, on agriculture research capacity building. Farmers learned that researches need not be government nor corporate nor NGO-led. In fact PDCI has undertaken the ten-year research on organic rice breed pretty much on the efforts of farmer-technicians aided by friendly scientists. Thus, we recommend that a significant portion of financing on agriculture research investments be allocated to the mobilization and training of farmer-scientists and the strengthening of agri- cooperatives.

B. Open forum

Sophal: How was your process in establishing your cooperative?

Jagat: Is your cooperative different from the government cooperative?

Efren: Our cooperative started in 1991, and we registered with the government. All our members are agrarian reform beneficiaries and each member has 1.7 hectares. We have undergone many problems - we started with nothing, then we get assisted. With good track record, many agencies helped us. We are able to give dividends. The government regularly evaluates us.

Vietnam Farmers Union

Lei Y Voan

- A. VNFU presented the results of the field study on its Organic Development Project. Salient points of the powerpoint presentation include:*

1. Why develop organic agriculture? - The development of organic agriculture in Vietnam is driven by concern over the risks of high residues of chemical pesticides. The first solution in response to this problem first is "clean" or "safe" agriculture (IPM), following Vietgap and Globalgap. But other organic agriculture method should also be supported. Main organic production in Vietnam targets the export markets of shrimps, tea, fruits, cashew, and spices, among others.
2. How farmers are concerned - Organic farming is not new in Vietnam, as local farmers have practiced traditional farming for hundreds of years. Farmers recognize that it can recover

the quality of soil and biological diversity. It can also solve the problem of pollution, soil erosion and low mass of soil caused by the massive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Consumers also need safe food despite the higher price.

3. VNFU organic project - The VNFU organic project was implemented in three phases, from 2005-2012.
 - a. The first phase (2005 – 2008) involved field studies by farmers. 120 farmers in 12 groups were involved in the field studies of rice, vegetable, fruits (lichi, orange) and aquaculture. The studies resulted in organic technical manuals and training materials. It also resulted in the development of 3 organic farming systems for 3 crops such as rice, vegetable and fruit trees (aquaculture not yet completed).
 - b. The second phase (2008 – 2010) involved training of trainers (TOT) for farmers to become capable organic farmers. There were also farmer field schools for more than 2,500 farmers. Organic farmer groups were also established. Finally, PGS certification for organic products was also developed.
 - c. The third phase (2010 – 2012) involved follow up of the FFS/ TOT/organic farmer group development, market development/ cooperation with companies/providing customer requirements, and development of organic supply chains/value chain analysis.
4. Research study process - The research study process started with the choice of organic methods that can best bring safety and nutrition for food and soil.

It progressed according to the following steps: inception study/ database; trials and experiments on organic farming and conventional farming; observation of crop growth every week/ recording of the process; using interventions/technologies such as compost making, herbal pesticides, liquid spray from garlic, nim, and integration of crop.

The study also got the support of the local government as one person from the Local People's Committee joined the process.

The commune provided land for the conduct of trials and experiments in the fields. The project worked closely with agricultural research institutes and universities in Vietnam, which helped give feedback on the results of soil testing and analysis, application of traditional seeds, green manure and compost making, among others.

5. Sharing and using the knowledge/research results - During the second phase of the project, from 2008 to 2010, the knowledge and research results were shared used through various means. There was direct sharing through training of trainers, farmer field schools, workshops and training materials, development of a participatory guarantee system for Vietnam, and field visits. Indirect sharing and use of knowledge and results were also done through the establishment of organic farmer groups/inter-groups, marketing study/marketing strategy/market development, public communication to farmers and consumers and communities, development of product chains, policy advocacy workshop on the policies for organic agriculture development in Vietnam, and participation of all stakeholders in applying the results of the research.
6. Recommendations - From the project experience, the following some recommendations have been developed. The government should have specific policies to promote organic agriculture at the national as well as at regional level. There should be capacity building for organic farmer organizations, including field research potential. There should be more researches and studies on organic farming and other GAP methods to be applied in tropical regions, especially on disease treatment, agro-biotechnology, and aquaculture. Regional research projects should be conducted in which farmer organizations can get involved and share inputs, outputs and knowledge.
7. Key Elements of the PGS System -The Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) is composed of the family farm, producer group, inter-group, and coordination group, where producers, consumers, local organizations, traders and scientists participate. (See diagram)

The producer group is composed of the head, under which are the production, quality, and accounting departments. The quality department takes care of input, field, and harvest checks.

Three inter-groups have been formed. Under the head, are the production, marketing, and certification management functions. Production takes care of planning, technique, and materials. Marketing assists in selling and in promotion. Certification management takes care of inspection planning, inspection organization, inspection report review, decision making, and monitoring and follow up of sanctions. The PGS Coordination Committee (CC) consists of 7 volunteers from the different members of the PGS. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of PGS members will appoint the Coordination Group for the time being. The PGS CC has the responsibility for the overall governance of the PGS particularly with regards to the integrity of the system and the PGS standards. It has the right to check the internal workings of both Producer and Inter-Groups. It issues the certificates and has the right to withhold certification. It also maintains the PGS database including the record of non-compliances and actions taken.

8. Results - The following results were achieved:
 - a. Inspection and certification:
 - » 2009: 1 in total of 9 regd PGS groups is certified PGS
 - » 2010: 11 in total of 14 regd PGS groups are certified
 - » 2011: 20 in total of 24 regd PGS groups are certified
 - » 2012: 23 in total of 27 regd PGS groups are certified
 - b. 22 ha in total of 31,12 ha regd are certified PGS include vegetable, longan and pomelo
 - c. 173 farmers among 262 regd PGS are certified
 - d. Sanctions:
 - » 2010: 2 warnings (bring uncompleted compost into organic field)
 - » 2011: 1 warning, 1 withdraw certification
 - » 2012: 1 warning

B. *Open Forum*

Rifai: We are interested in the certification system – esp PGS. It is important for us small scale organic producers. How do we label also organic products, especially the GMO products mostly are not labelled . In vietnam is the PGS for national or only local level? Is PGS a national law ? Is there any other certification for organic products?

Yvoan: If we do not have certification, our consumers cannot recognize our products. Our ministry has not yet developed the certification . We have established accreditation committee composed of the project members and the consumer ---- 7 persons as members.

Rifai: The certification is a condition required by the consumers / buyer. This is for the food safety. But sometimes the certification requirements are difficult to be met by small farmers. Certification standards are high.

Yvoan: I totally agree with you. We started certification with the IFOAM PGS because if we wait for government, it will be too long.

National Land Rights Forum –Nepal ***Som Bhandary and Jagat Basnet***

A. *Salient points of the powerpoint presentation includes:*

1. On NLRF and CSRC initiatives - NLRF and CSRC jointly implemented on-ground initiatives such as: support to sustainable farming initiatives through forming women’s agriculture cooperatives; (2) working with VDC for the support of agriculture input and Agriculture offices; (3) coordination of movements on fundamental rights issues [land, agriculture, food, forest]; and, (4) NLRF/DLRF showing the examples in keeping the animal husbandry and agriculture farming.

They also implemented policy, research and advocacy activities such as: (1) lobbying to endorse the implementation of the National Land use policy; (2) support to coordination of movements [land rights, community forestry, Dalits and

women); and, (3) networking and policy support for sustainable agriculture/partnership with Forest Action.

NLRF members are doing collective farming with permission of VDC in public land. They harvest an estimated 10 quintile of lentils and 100 quintiles of rice production.

NLRF plays the role of advocator and practitioner. It is development a model of land and agrarian reform. The fruits of struggle its struggle are the Land Certificate for its members. There is collective effort and collective ownership. Another fruit of the struggle is women's ownership of the land. NLRF also does land and agriculture encampment.

2. Challenges in Agriculture - There has been a shift away from farming, as people are moving to the non-farm sector due to eviction from tenure ship/sharecropping, but there is a weak linkage between farm and non-farm sector.

Rural livelihood security as a whole is also being threatened and vulnerability is growing as climate as well as food production is fluctuating and food insecure households cannot cope.

The source of food supply has seen a growing dependence on international monopoly market dominated by big national companies, as well as a growing dependence of farming sector on external technology.

3. On Agriculture policy - Agricultural policies in Nepal suffers from a lack of political ownership, high input plan with low level of investment commitment, and lack of coordination (research and extension) and with other sectors like forestry, land and labour. The main issue is also that they are not in favour of resource poor farmers and there is no target for food security.
4. Opportunities for action- Opportunities for action include: (1) mainstreaming of knowledge challenges-research and comparative study and innovations; (2) influential networks of practitioners, researchers and service providers - to adopt policy and institutions that supports adaptive production and productivity system; (3) coordinated movements/actions -Land

rights, community based forestry, common land use, agro forestry; and, (4) increased production and productivity of resource poor farmers and livelihoods diversification through on farm demonstration.

5. Achievements in food and nutrition security – Achievements in food and nutrition security include: (1) women’s cooperative started to use the west and fallow land and starting to secure the food and nutrition; (2) those who received the tenancy rights now have greater share of production and are contributing to food and nutrition; and, (3) some of the VLRG groups have started the vegetable farming and collective farming which are contributing to food and nutrition.
6. Develop and enhance capacities - In 2011, 40 farmers were trained on sustainable agriculture. Now they have started the sustainable agriculture. The capacity of local leaders and facilitators land and agrarian reform from below (community-led land and agrarian reform) was also developed.
7. Influence government in shaping priorities - Government priorities have been influenced in the areas of: (1) land use policy; (2) starting formation of national land policy; (3) critical engagement in Agriculture development strategy; (4) 15% VDC budget for agriculture; and, (4) women’s joint ownership and women’s cooperative.
8. Sharing and use of agricultural knowledge- In order to share and use agricultural knowledge, the following activities were conducted: (1) workshop on organic rice and rice Industry; (2) exposure of VLRG members for agriculture knowledge (Inter country); (3) workshop with the partnership with the agriculture sections; and, (4) sharing of information on agriculture issues like climate change and sustainable agriculture.
9. Agricultural extension work - There is a plan to support at least 50 community groups on agriculture every year and to support women agricultural cooperatives. There are also collaborations with other organizations, VDCs, agriculture office, and NGOs. There is also a thrust to claim the 15% VDC budget for agriculture extension.

10. Partnership issues and leaning - There are several issues and lessons learned. There is no partnership between the agriculture researchers and agriculture support organizations. There is less partnership in action research in agriculture. Finally, there is no monitoring of the use of budget of VDC and the agriculture office which leads to blaming among NGOs and government office.

B. Open Forum

Rifai: I am interested in land use and collective marketing because land use is a base of agrarian reform. How do you manage the system of collective farming? Because each farmer involved in collective farming may have different style of work, different capacity, different amount of work – so how do you share the yield?

Jagat: We were able to convince the government to have the national land use policy. It is really also a challenge to do collective farming. We have taken the land from the Village Development Committee (VDC) in this collective farming. It is like a contract with the VDC. They have to work in the group, and they will share in the yield. They have a mechanism .

September 11, 2012

Synthesis of the Sharing Session

Esther Penunia

1. From the 9 presentations, we can identify five key areas where FO priorities are, and therefore where AR4D can be focused on. The first area is on ensuring farmers' /producers' access to productive resources such as land, water, seeds and energy. NLRF had joint ownership of land with men and women members, land use policy and collective farming. PAKISAMA had partnership approach in agrarian reform implementation. FNN worked on efficient water use through SRI and community based irrigation system and the use of local rice seeds. Api worked on cross-breeding of seeds while Ainokai worked on the use of wood as fuel for efficient kitchen stoves.
2. The second key area of work is on agricultural practices that increases yield, makes farming profitable but at the same time protects the environment, reduce vulnerability of farmers and build their resiliency

- leading to better conditions of farmers and a sustainable lifestyle. FNN for example has piloted and upscaled the SRI . VNFU and API developed farmer trainers and local training materials on organic farming and conducted farmer field schools . Ainokai developed sustainable lifestyle technique and transition towns. Ainokai, KAFF , WAFF, PAKISAMA linked with academe for agri extension work.
3. The third key area of work is on organizing and strengthening farmers' organizations and cooperatives. NLRF, PAKISAMA, VNFU and API shared their work on organizing farmers into commodity clusters or cooperatives , and conducting organizational meetings and membership surveys.
 4. The fourth key area of work is on marketing. API, VNFU , FNN, PaKISAMA and TWADA are conducting marketing surveys, quality control of their products, product packaging and branding. Ainokai, VNFU and API are engaged in organic certification and participatory guarantee system (PGS). These organizations have linked with academe for product packaging and with media for promotion.
 5. The fifth area of work is advocacy for supportive government policy. KAFF, WAFF, API, NLRF, India Farmers Forum have strong initiatives in this area. KAFF and WAFF have very interesting bills filed in their parliament, and these bills were drafted with the help of allied academicians and policy researchers and analysts.

Planning Workshop

Lany Rebagay

Lany then facilitated the next session, which is a Planning Workshop. The participants were divided into three groups according to the sub regions in Asia (Southeast, South, and East Asia) and were asked to respond to three questions:

1. *AFA , in 2009, has identified the following priorities for AR4D. Please validate, confirm, refine, add or subtract to come up with our present priorities for AR4D.*
 - a. *Invest in agricultural Research and development that is geared towards effective, sustainable, integrated, diversified, organic farming.*

b. In the area of sustainable, integrated, diversified, organic farming, we suggest that research institutions focus instead on :

- soil fertility management,
- crop growth and health
- habitat management
- crop breeding programs focusing on the adaptability of plants to low-input situations in soils, on weed competition, and on pest and disease tolerance;
- improved plant protection techniques and compounds from natural sources;
- breeding strategies and programs for adaptability to management and environmental stress situations ;
- reduced tillage organic systems
- efficient water-use / community-based irrigation
- participatory plant breeding and community-based genetic resource conservation efforts

c. research on improving resiliency of crops and increasing their diversity of traits be done through traditional and modern conventional breeding techniques, which will involve smallholder farmers and their organizations.

d. research and document various traditional, local knowledge and practices on crop breeding, seed banking, pest management, organic fertilizers, energy-efficient mechanisms

e. technical assistance in monitoring the climate variation and needs to be warned and informed, soonest possible time, so we can better plan ahead

f. strengthen links between research, advisory and extension services to promote sustainable agriculture; strengthen partnerships between research institutions, extension workers and organizations of smallholder farmers, particularly women because women are good educators

2. *Based on the key AR4D priorities (your answer in question 1) , what new skills and capacities do you need?*

3. *What kind of partnerships and collective actions are needed?*

Southeast Asia Report (API, FNN, VNFU, PAKISAMA)***Lei Y Voan, Presentor***

A. The following were the salient points of the presentation:

1. The group validates the existing AR4D priorities of AFA, but would like to add the following, in blue fonts:
 - breeding strategies , especially for local and natural seeds and programs for adaptability to management and environmental stress situations;
 - reduced tillage organic systems (which should be appropriate to specific local conditions and factors such as seed variety, climate and seasons)
 - research on improving resiliency of crops and increasing their diversity of traits be done through traditional and modern conventional breeding techniques (but more appropriate technology, farmers friendly), which will involve smallholder farmers and their organizations
 - empowering women participation (in the research focused on how empower women, collective farming, cooperative for women group, empowering collective marketing, information dissemination/ITC)

2. The skills needed to enhance farmers' capacities are:
 - a. Planning skills (for research, business plan, organizational works) – men on women
 - b. Information and documentation database management and analysis – men and women (especially for women on ITC)
 - c. Processing skills (organic rice, processed fruit, etc. For added value of the products – crispy jackfruit, mango, for women) -- men and women
 - d. marketing skills -- for both men and women

5. The group thinks that AFA should partner with national research institutions, international research institutions, NGOs, private sector and other farmer networks at national, regional, and global

levels, provided that they share a common vision with AFA and its members – e.g. pro-organic and small family farmers.

B. Open Forum

Raj: Do we only mean organic ? Shouldn't we see that farming should also earn income ? Are we not covering other farming systems – we are covering only crops. But in southeast asia there is fishery, horticulture, livestock.

Lany: There is already much interest in non-organic, so we want

Sopheap: Most of our members are small scale farmers, and this organic system is applicable to the farmers. We promote organic because if we minimize chemical use, the farmer can gain benefit. It generates economic results, more income, more productivity, more soil improvement. If we promote chemical, we will promote dependency on chemicals, on machines.

Ika: This is not a new way of doing farming for us. But in 1960s, there was green revolution. There was destruction in the environment . So now we would like to go back to our technologies, although with improved versions.

Raj: No doubt that many farmers think this is more sustainable. i am just putting a proposal. We should move into more sustainable, organic agriculture. We are not against this if this will give more yields. The situation is different from one country to another. Next is the re -orientation of the development research agenda. We recently organized research consultation – on bio fertilizers, bio pesticides. This is part of sustainable agriculture. But how many countries can produce bio fertilizer, bio pesticides ? If we want to replace chemical to organic fertilizer, prescription is good, but is it practical ? There should be a balanced consideration by this group.

Tsai: Farmers are diligent. Farmers want to decide by themselves. Farmers will try to do what is more adaptive to their environments. Everyone needs safety agriculture, needs safe foods. If the farmer cannot produce safe product, farmer in Taiwan will not be allowed to produce anymore.

South Asia Report (NLR, India Farmers' Forum)**Group Presentor : Ajay Vir Jakhar**

A. *The following were the salient points of the presentation:*

1. We would like to add the following as priorities for AR4D:
 - a. Invest in agricultural Research and development that is geared towards environmentally sustainable and economically viable agriculture for small holder farmer.
 - b. Research institutions should focus on:
 - Treat soil as an asset
 - Water use efficiency and measurement (what we cannot measure we cannot value)
 - Agriculture programs focusing on the local varieties and climate change resilience
 - Better quality inputs and input optimization
 - Reduced tillage systems
 - Organic practices (Localized problems need localized solutions)
 - Conservation agriculture to reduce use of fertilizers, pesticides and energy consumption.
2. The capacities that need to be strengthened are:
 - a. Use Model farmers in every cluster of villages to develop local capacity. Farmers quickly adopt better farming practices as seeing is believing.
 - b. Facilitate farmer visits from one country to another to bring about awareness and expose farmers to other farming practices.
 - c. Research and document various traditional, local agriculture knowledge and practices.
 - d. More women researchers in the CGIAR system
3. Farmers organizations will need support on the following:

- a. Transferring existing research through extension services to the farmer preferably through women farmers.
 - b. One extension worker in every village is required.
 - c. Farmers must always be given a choice of practice or input use.
4. Partnerships for AR4D can be along the following :
- a. Joint forum of researchers and farmers to continuously discuss traditional practices and modern research.
 - b. Direct partnership among farmer groups and research institutions.
 - c. Collaborative partnership with private sector.
5. In the end, a quote by Alex Evans: "The question is not how much an acre can produce in one year but for a thousand years."

B. Open Forum

Raj: The report presents a balanced and comprehensive view. Research has to be reoriented to the needs of small holder farmers. Second, instead of talking of cropping system, we should re-orient to farming systems. We should promote small farm mechanization.

Sopheap: Yes, we practice small farm mechanization in our country (Cambodia). Some farmers buy a tractor. Then they can provide service to other farmers who cannot buy a tractor. Some cooperatives buy farm machines and rent this to their members as a kind of service.

East Asia Report (KAFF/WAFF, Ainokai, TWADA) Group Presentor : Young Ran Choi

A. The following were the salient points of the presentation:

1. In each of our countries, we identified needed skills, capacities, and experiments:
 - a. For KAFF and WAFF, we have to study the initiatives and respond to the needs of an increasing number of farmers groups which are relatively small (e.g. composed of five people only) who have grouped themselves for collective production and distribution. What kind of support do they need, especially from the government and other development organizations, in the area of training, education, and management consulting? Also, we need to know the methods to respond to climate change and what kind of actions the government can take to recover losses due to climate change effects.
 - b. For Ainokai, it would like to review APAARI's research topics and then from that make also some suggestions. Also, we would like to develop techniques for safe energy to encourage local self sufficiency, including energy sufficiency from hydro, solar, geo-electronics. Ainokai has declared an anti-nuclear stance. We also would like to have more studies and promotion of traditional varieties and traditional knowledge.
 - c. For TWADA, it has adopted low carbon agriculture since the Council of Agriculture is promoting the health, efficiency and sustainable management of agriculture, under its "Carbon Reduction" policy objective. In fact, TWADA Chairperson has received a certification from the government already on low-carbon farming. TWADA would like to have more skills on low-carbon agriculture.
2. On women farmers, the age of women getting married and giving birth to a first child is higher than before. Many women are more independent and their status is getting higher, pursuing more professional careers, resulting to decreasing number of women farmers.
 - a. In Korea, the government has started the welfare credit card policy for women farmers last year, in the amount of USD80 per year, which can be used for hospital bills, and cinemas. The government has started also giving USD350 to women farmers who are injured --- money which the women farmer can use

to hire household help. We also believe that it will be very important to develop and upgrade the physical infrastructures at the rural areas – such as hospitals and schools.

- b. In Taiwan, women farmers need to be supported through lower fees for medical insurance and medical treatment.
3. Because the number of farmers in our countries are decreasing, the ultimate solution is to increase the rural population. Thus, we would like partnerships to be focusing on this aspect. Common activities can be farmers exchange visits, and increasing public awareness and support to agriculture. For the latter, partnership with media will be important.

B. Open Forum

Rifai: Your countries have transformed from agrarian to industrialized nations. It is important for us to learn from your experience on how you encourage young people to do farming. In our country (Indonesia), this is a challenge.

Ran: It is also a challenge for us, but we have taken some initiatives, mainly to encourage people, especially the young, who are residing in the urban areas to go to the rural areas. Some measures undertaken were: giving incentives for retired people to go back into farming; promotion of week-end farming activities; promotion of healthy diets through consumption of local food; new arrangements for production and marketing of crops and low-carbon mileage incentive programs.

Synthesis of Planning Workshop

Esther Penunia

1. From the three reports, we affirm AFA's AR4D priorities, with some comments and additions. Main refinements include:
 - a. that the sustainable agricultural practices must also bring net economic returns to the farmers, in terms of less costs and /or increased incomes.
 - b. knowing that many farmers in Asia have been taught chemical

intensive agriculture, the transition to more sustainable agro-ecological and organic approaches have to be supported, and therefore practices on input optimization and low-carbon agriculture have to be promoted until a farmer succeeds in transiting into sustainable, integrated, diversified, resilient, economically viable agriculture.

- c. agri practices that reduces energy consumption and uses renewable sources of energy must be promoted.
 - d. localized solutions to local problems, and solutions should be appropriate to small scale farmers and the process to identify solutions must involve them as well.
 - e. call for increased investments on agro ecological and organic approaches , as chemical intensive agriculture has been promoted extensively.
2. In terms of capacities needed in order for us to promote this AR4D priorities, the following have been mentioned :
- a. planning skills such as on how to do research, business plan, organizational work .
 - b. skills on information dissemination and documentation or Information and Communication Technology and data base management , and involving women and youth on these.
 - c. cskills on food processing for value addition of farmers' crops and products; which include studies on competitiveness of organic products and inorganic products and research on packaging of products.
 - d. marketing skills which include market information, negotiation skills, and appropriate post-harvest and storage equipments

Many of these skills and capacities can be learned through farmer exchange visits, farmer to farmer extension, establishment of pilot sites and model farms.

3. On the needs of women farmers , we said
 - a. social and physical infrastructures such as hospitals and schools should be made attractive to women so that they will opt to stay in the farms/rural areas .
 - b. welfare benefits (such as medical insurance) has to be increased for women farmers
 - c. farmers' visits and training activities for farmers should be designed and scheduled so that women farmers have stronger interest and better chances to join these activities
4. In terms of partnerships, we all agreed that we can partner and have cooperation with other stakeholders – private sector, national and international research institutions and governments – as long as they share our vision and priorities and are pro-organic and pro-small farmers.

Closing Remarks from Co-Organizers

Sor Kor Por

Kanisorn Punyaprasiddhi, Office Manager

We thank you for coming here. We are sorry our organization was not here yesterday. We had some misunderstanding with the AFA secretariat with regards our role as local host. But we will have a dialogue after this meeting.

Asian Farmers' Association

Sophal Uon, Chairperson

In behalf of AFA , I am happy to see that this workshop is successfully done. For one and a half days, we worked hard to reach a common vision. We have two points. One, we learned a lot from the experiences shared by the ten farmers organizations here. Our initiatives are sometimes similar but always leading to the same vision.

Second point, we are happy to get results for the next plan. We said we will generally focus on organic, but we also recognize low-carbon agriculture

and high input optimization. We also recognize that some of us would like to promote non-organic. What is important is that there can be freedom to choose, and to make partnerships with others with the same vision and interests. Thank you to Sor Kor Por for joining us. And a big thanks to APAARI who supported us in this workshop.

APAARI

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary

It has been a great experience to facilitate this process in partnership with GFAR. We would like to continue our efforts to facilitate the process but not to be seen in the front seat. Coming to this deliberation has been very rich. Thanks to your very active involvement and input. Good recommendations have come from this workshop. This will need good compilation in a format which can go to the GCARD 2 as inputs from farmers in the Asia- Pacific region.

Please take note of re-enforcing gcard roadmap principles of giving thrust to small farmers and sustainable ,environmentally friendly agriculture, including organic agriculture. We need more re orientation on research and development, more participatory approaches and more effective roles of farmers in research redirection, project implementation, monitoring and evaluation, for impact assessment. Farmers should be seen as partners , not be seen at the receiving end only.

There is no doubt traditional farming practices should be promoted , documented, and shared . We must also re- enforce the results of the Global Conference on Women in Agriculture : for empowering women, removing drudgery, and capacity building; because women farmers can play more effective roles. We must see that youth is attracted and for that there must be new agriculture. We should diversify agriculture. Then we have to link it with the markets. How do we then create an enabling environment to attract young people ? This is a big challenge.

Scientists should work with farmers as researchers together, for practices to be tested for validity and for higher adaption. Skills development was also emphasized. We have to see that there are options for young farmers for customized services. These young can be trained for the production of bio fertilizers. We need market intelligence for linking small farmers to market, we need support for post harvest.

The last point is for AFA to expand to other countries , the sooner, the better. APAARI can help in that. This platform can be : knowledge sharing in regular intervals depending on resources. It is important to know each other personally. Secondly this platform can be for capacity building. Seeing is believing. So, farmers visits are important. Also important is to bring other farmers to be advisers to other farmers in other countries – for example, as knowledge advocates. It is important that we can give innovation fund for farmers so that they can go from one place to another. Thirdly is to strengthen our voice, build our strength at national and regional levels. We should influence policy . Farmers talking about farmers should be done. We will be very pleased if there is a regional fora where all countries can join. We can make this step by step. For example, APAARI executive committee and AFA members can have a forum together. We can also start with reciprocal membership. We also have a vacant seat for farmers' representative in APAARI. We should be seen as a strong voice at the international level. Majority of the small farmers are in Asia Pacific. Farmers organizations should take more prominent role in decision making bodies in international bodies, for example in the steering committee at the international level in GFAR. Thank you again for this good beginning of partnership with AFA.

GFAR

Thomas Price, Senior Project Officer

Thank you for the host here in Thailand. It is always a pleasure to come to Thailand. I would like to thank all of you as a collective , as AFA. Thank you for inviting us to this meeting. Thank you to Raj and to APAARI .

I would like to gather my thoughts for GFAR.

First one, at the end of the morning, there was a big discussion on organic and other models in agriculture. I would like to express this in a different way for you. I think what you are saying is that you want to be masters of your own destiny. You want your own choices, your own decisions on what model of agriculture you want, what research you want provided to you, what techniques and technologies you want to adapt. GFAR can provide opportunities to you so you can find these new models and then from among these new models, decide what you want to adapt. Two GFAR programs in particular are ongoing. There is a program on farmer-driven research, and we would like to work on that with you, so you can determine what research you want. Another one is looking at farmers rights to seeds, which is an area you have raised often.

Another point that has been raised so often is that small holder agriculture is viewed as a thing of the past. I think small holder agriculture is the profession of the future. It is entrepreneurial. It is forward looking, it is adaptive. A lot can be done to have this kind of view for smallholder agriculture. After all, smallholder agriculture will feed 9B people in 2050. It can end hunger and poverty. I think you have identified areas where public and private responses can make agriculture attractive.

Finally, it is really bringing your collective voice to the agricultural research community. We have this opportunity at GCARD. Unity is important. Even though you have great diversity as smallholders and are pursuing different models of agriculture , you can bring your collective voice to this agricultural research community. We welcome having you in APAARI. We want also to present as many opportunities to farmers organizations as possible to represent themselves in international and regional research organizations. Your regional and your national organizations have tremendous promise to us all in the agricultural research community. It was a pleasure being with you.

Raj Paroda thanked Esther, Lany, Attaluri, Bhag Mal, who were working from behind to facilitate this process. Esther thanked the translators. Mr. Tsai from TWADA gave tokens/small gifts to everyone. The participants then posed for a group photo.

Synthesis Report of the Consultation

The Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Association of Agriculture Research Institutions (APAARI) and support of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), organized a "Regional Consultation on Agricultural Research for Development", on 10-11 September 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand. The consultation was attended by 16 men and 6 women participants, representing 10 national farmers' organizations in 9 countries, whose combined membership is about 12 million small scale women and men farmers, fishers, and producers. Here at GCARD2, we want to share the highlights and outcome of this important consultation.

Our innovations and initiatives in different countries

In Cambodia, in a span of 12 years, 200,000 farmers from Farmer and Nature Net (FNN), with technical support from NGO CEDAC, have adopted the System of Rice Intensification (SRI), increasing their yields from 50-100%, reducing their costs for seeds and fertilizers by as much as 70%, and feeling greater control of the technology through their own "learning -by -doing" and sharing activities; thereby resulting to increased net incomes, better self confidence, enhanced creativity and increased networking among farmers and NGO-supported technicians. The Cambodian Government officially endorsed SRI as a rice production strategy.

In Indonesia, Aliansi Petani Indonesia (API) engaged its government in formulating a rice price policy/HPP, working with other farmers' organizations, NGOs and the Ministries of Agriculture, Finance and Economy. While lobbying, API also trained farmers for crossbreeding of rice seeds. Also, API has organized its members into HH -based commodity clusters: 3,000 HHs for banana, 5,500 HHs for cocoa, 17,000 HHs for duku fruit, and 3,000 HHs for organic rice.

In Philippines, the Pecuaría Development Cooperative, a member of PAKISAMA, has successfully claimed their land rights through the government's agrarian reform program, and after 10 years of support from research institutions, NGOs and government, has produced, packaged and sold its organic rice varieties, bio fertilizers and muscovado, increasing the incomes of the members and making the cooperative the biggest single producer of organic rice in the market today.

In Vietnam, the Vietnam Farmers' Union (VNFU) conducted trainers' training and farmer field schools involving 2,500 farmers on production of organic rice, vegetables and fruit trees, and is currently assisting in the development of the organic supply chain. It has also established a participatory guarantee system with three inter-groups (production, marketing, certification management), and involving farmers, consumers, traders, and scientists in the system. Already, 173 farmers from among 263 registered PGS are certified.

In Nepal, the National Land Rights Forum-Nepal (NLRN), continues to lobby for the effective implementation of the government's land and agrarian reform policy, thereby helping more women and men farmers to own the lands they till. To those who have acquired lands, NLRN facilitates the formation of collective farms and women agricultural cooperatives, and links them to extension workers for training on sustainable rice production, homestead/vegetable gardening and livestock raising.

In India, the Bharat Krishak Samaj publishes a weekly magazine called Farmers' Forum, which is being distributed to farmers and their organizations and cooperatives, researchers, scientists and decision-makers. The organization focuses on policy advocacy through tri-media work (print, TV) to urge their government to consult and listen to the farmers.

In South Korea, the Korean Advanced Farmers Federation (KAFF) and the Women's Advanced Farmers Federation (WAFF) submitted 8 bills in the Parliament: which include policies to encourage young farmers (such as exempting young farmers from military service, provide soft agri loans and grants), price support, 1% of corporate tax to agriculture, policies on fossil fuel use and food security and foreign direct investments and effective public-private partnerships.

In Japan, Ainokai continues to conduct seminars on sustainable lifestyle techniques such as efficient kitchen stoves, organic farming, food processing courses, soil preparation and nursery raising for seedlings, as well as in the establishment of Transition Towns – piloting this in Iga.

In Taiwan, the Taiwan WaxApple Development Association works with the government's Council of Agriculture and the National Pintung University for Science and Technology in the conduct of researches aimed to have better

quality wax apples, better markets and prices including export markets, encourage the youth to go into farming, and produce more safe products. The farmers' wax apples are currently being exported to Canada, China, and Singapore.

Our research priorities

1. Invest in agricultural Research and development that is geared towards sustainable, resilient, integrated, diversified, organic and economically viable agriculture for and with small-scale women and men farmers.
2. Intensify Research on:
 - Understanding the situation and issues on access and control of basic production resources mainly land, water, forests and seeds; as well as policy options to address and resolve these issues
 - Soil fertility management, crop growth and health, habitat management, weed competition, on pest and disease tolerance; improved plant protection techniques and compounds from natural sources; breeding strategies and programs for adaptability to management and environmental stress situations; reduced tillage organic systems, efficient water-use / community-based irrigation, participatory plant breeding and community-based genetic resource conservation efforts, proper transition from chemical to organic agriculture
 - Use of various traditional, local knowledge and practices on crop breeding, seed banking, pest management, organic fertilizers, energy-efficient mechanisms,
 - Marketing, market information, and value addition, meeting certification requirements
 - Quantification of impact of sustainable agricultural approaches
 - Developing tools, equipments and machines that reduce drudgery, especially in women's farmers' work
 - Economically viable farming system integrating crops, livestock, aquaculture on small plots of land
 - How to attract the young to go into farming

3. Technical assistance in monitoring the climate variations and information on early warning systems well in advance, in order to have better planning ahead of time.
4. Strengthening links between research, advisory and extension services; strengthening partnerships between research institutions, extension workers and organizations of smallholder farmers
5. Strategies to empower women farmers as they participate in collective farming and marketing, cooperatives information dissemination/ICT.

The support we need

1. Build and strengthen the capacities of farmers and their organizations in the areas of information and data base management and analysis (encouraging the young people in the field of ICT), business planning, organizational management, food processing and value addition, marketing, negotiation, policy advocacy, organizing the farmer constituency along geographical and crop lines.
2. Develop in-situ model farms and identify, train and support model farmers/ farmer technicians-extensionists; ideally one farmer – extensionists in every village
3. Support farmer-to-farmer learning exchanges, study visits, knowledge learning -sharing activities, and solidarity exchanges, both at national, regional and international levels.
4. Make available and accessible appropriate tools, equipments and machines to farmers
5. Enhanced support to build the capacities of women farmers to organize, build solidarity and initiate their own activities
6. Provide institutionalized mechanism within CGIAR/ GFAR for meaningful participation of representatives of small-scale farmers, fishers and indigenous peoples in the designing, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of research and development initiatives.

The partnerships we want to forge

We are ready to develop partnerships with governments, public and private national and international research institutions, NGOs, private sector and other FOs who share our vision on sustainable rural development, who have the keen interests of the small-scale farmers at heart, who appreciate our being researcher-scientists in our own right and who treat us as equal partners in agriculture research for development.