



REPORT

AFA-Agriterra Project Cooperation

Ref. Contract No.11aa-5715-15at-6079 Advocacy for Government Support to Sustainable Agriculture and Farmer Led Enterprises Period Sept-Dec 2015

Executive Summary (1 page max)

During the AFA Chair's interaction with some AFA members (API, AFFM, NLRFC,CTCF, KKM) in the first half of 2015, with the support of Agriterra, a need to learn more about sustainable agriculture – that which is environmentally sound, socially just and economically viable – was identified.

This project was a direct response to that need. It provided support for AFA members to identify, translate and disseminate best and most practical literature- manual, guide, case study on sustainable agriculture/agro-ecology. These materials hope to guide, and instruct farmers on sustainable agriculture/agro-ecology.

Four cases of member organizations were translated/written from their languages to English : What is Organic Farming by VNFU; integrated, diversified, organic farming and Agus Pinoy Cooperative by PAKISAMA; and Organizing Farmers for the Landless Movement in the Context of Land, Agri and Forest Resources by NLRF.

Six materials were translated from English to the national languages : Lessons from Nature into Filipino, Vietnamese, Nepali and Bangla languages; Starting A Cooperative to Filipino; Entering the Organic Market and Organic Revolution into Nepali; Handbook on Climate Resilient Agriculture into Bangla; and ICA Blueprint into Mongolian language.

In sum , AFA has collected 10 English materials on Sustainable agriculture /agro-ecology, with five written by its members (including Lessons from Nature, which is translated into four languages) and another five written by other organizations. Nine translations from English to national languages were also done. These are all uploaded in the AFA website.

Participation from member organizations were lower than expected, with less than 80% participation. Reason cited were : lack of time and manpower to translate materials . However, for those who have given feedback report as to how farmers used the translated material, farmers found the usefulness of the translated material. There was commitment to work towards the amendment of the national law to include the 7 principles of cooperatives (NAMAC), a resolve to apply the strategies they have learned into the export market for organic tea (CTCF), and apply new knowledge learned (VNFU).

AFA will monitor feedback on the usefulness of the translated materials by year end of 2016.



Chapter 1 : Baseline Situation at the Start of the Project

This project has its contract of origin contract 11aa-5715-11at-3073, with the same title.

During the first semester of 2015, and with Agriterra support, AFA Chairperson visited the following members: API in Indonesia, NLRF and CTCF in Nepal, and KKM in Bangladesh. The members' visits provided him the opportunity to interact with farmers at the field level. During these interactions, the AFA Chair observed that many farmers want more information on the beliefs, principles and appropriate practices on sustainable agriculture. The AFA Chair has written a book entitled "Lessons from Nature", and after explaining about the history of the book and its contents, the farmers were eager to receive a copy of the book – however, currently the book only has translations in Thailand and Bangladesh. The AFA Chair also knew that in internet and also in offices of the AFA members, there is literature already on sustainable agriculture - such as videos, manuals, guides – which many members can find appropriate and practical . However, these were written in English or in member's language. Thus there was a need to translate these materials to the language of the members, and then disseminate them to farmer leaders. In this way, sustainable agriculture can be promoted (note that this is one of AFA's peasant agenda), and knowledge and innovation of farmers can be strengthened. Translating and disseminating good materials on sustainable agriculture is also a relevant service to members.

Chapter 2: Results and Outreach Achieved in Reporting Period

The project allowed participating AFA member organizations to: (1) provide English translation of their best training materials on sustainable agriculture; (2) learn the best training materials on sustainable agriculture currently being used by co-AFA members ; (3) identify from internet suitable and applicable training materials on sustainable agriculture worth disseminating to members ; and (4) translate priority materials/literature on sustainable agriculture which they will then distribute to members.

Activities undertaken were as planned.

1. AFA member organizations was asked, through email, to identify
 - a. their best literature on Sustainable Agriculture/Agroecology, whether it was written in English or in their native language. *please see Annex 1 for the Matrix which AFA members were asked to fill out* Only VNFU identified one material , "What is Organic Farming" which was already printed in Vietnamese, but would like to translate in English. Then in December 8, 2016, FAO sent email to all participants of agro-ecology , asking case studies for its publication, "52 cases of agro ecology". PAKISAMA expressed interest to write cases on Integrated Diversified Farming Systems and the Agus Pinoy Cooperative. PAKISAMA have the "raw materials" (e.g. powerpoints, hand-outs) and can interview key informants. Also, NLRF had existing materials on how to organize farmers for the landless movement; and would like to package a material like a guide, by which others, especially farmer leaders of NLRF, can follow as they expand membership in other villages and districts
 - b. Eleven AFA member organizations (PAKISAMA , API, SKP, FNN, AFFM, VNFU, NLRF, CTCF, KKM, NAMAC, UWUA) were asked to surf internet for best literature on

sustainable agriculture/agroecology which can be practical, useful and appropriate for their members as well as responsive to their needs , taking into consideration the months of October-December, where such best practice will be tested in their fields. Seven member organizations (PAKISAMA, SKP, VNFU, NLRF, CTCF, KKM, NAMAC) responded positively to this invitation and gave links and the abstract for their selected literature.

2. AFA secretariat gave a consolidated list of the best literature as suggested by each AFA member. *please see Annex 2 for a consolidated list of best literature as suggested)*
3. Participating AFA member organizations then finalized its decision on what material/s that they would like to translate, print and disseminate to members. Partnership agreements were entered into between AFA member organization and AFA Chairperson. Agreements were done with seven member organizations (PAKISAMA, SKP, VNFU, NLRF, CTCF, KKM, NAMAC). Since the book Lessons from Nature was translated already in Thai by another organization, SKP agreed to get this translated version, print an disseminate it to their members.
4. The seven participating AFA member organizations then translated the material, printed the material and disseminated copies of the translated materials to 100 members. AFA secretariat monitored and followed up implementation. *please see Annex 3 for monitoring tool of translated material*
5. While seven participating AFA member organizations committed to organize interviews and feedback sessions from at least 10 farmers who have read the translated material , if possible practiced, the knowledge gained from the translated literature, only three members (VNFU, NAMAC and CTCF) gave feedback report as of this writing.

Reached by the Project

Table 1. Project Reached

Activity	Target	Actual
Identification and Translation of Best Literature (manual, video, guide)on sustainable agriculture/agroecology either produced by AFA member or surfed through internet	AFA members – 17 FOs in 13 countries	While all 17 FOs were asked to identify SA materials it had produced, only three members responded. One member (VNFU) was willing to translate one Vietnamese material into English. PAKISAMA and NLRF

		<p>identified two SA practices that needed writing into case studies and manual :</p> <p>For Pakisama : the story of Agus Pinoy Cooperative and the approach called Integrated, Diversified Organic Farming Systems.</p> <p>For NLRF : guide on organizing farmers for the landless movement.</p> <p>PAKISAMA and NLRF had some write-ups and presentations on these topics but needed to write their experience in a more "academic manner".</p>
<p>Translation of Best Literature (according to each members' criteria of practicality and suitability to the area)</p>	<p>AFA members- 13 FOs in 9 countries (less Japan, SKorea, Taiwan, Vietnam)</p>	<p>Seven members participated in project (54%) but only six members delivered translated materials (46%). Some members translated two materials, so in total 9 materials were translated: PAKISAMA (2 materials) VNFU (1 material) , NLRF (1 material) , CTCF (2 materials) , KKM (2 materials), NAMAC (1 material)</p> <p>SKP committed but failed to deliver . It was supposed to print a Thai translation of Lessons from Nature, but was not able to negotiate for a "free reprint" of the translation.</p> <p>AFA secretariat knew about this problem only when the project's financial books were already closed.</p>

Dissemination of translated best literature in members' language through website and personal distribution	9 countries *100 farmers=900 farmers	100% achieved. direct, hard copy : 1100 800 (100 *8 translated materials) plus 500 - (translated version on Organic Revolution in Nepali) online : -2000 (direct e-bulletin subscription)
Unplanned : Case study and manual of Integrated Diversified organic farming system (IDOFs) Agus Pinoy cooperative		AFA submitted the tAgus Pinoy and IDOFS cases to FAO for its publication "52 cases of agro ecology". FAO committed to include these in the publication.

Results achieved based on the expected results and indicators stated in the log frame:

Table 2. Results based on expected results and indicators

What are the expected results of the Project?	What are the indicators to measure whether and to what extent the expected results have been achieved?	Actual Results
number of practitioners of sustainable agriculture technologies/systems have increased from	-interviews and feedback report from member organizations	NAMAC interviewed a total of 35 members . 93% of those interviewed affirmed its usefulness. There was commitment to promote agri cooperatives, work towards the amendment of the national law to include the 7 principles of

<p>AFA individual members</p>		<p>cooperatives and bring to the attention of the private agri sector the work of cooperatives. <i>Please see Annex 4 for NAMAC feedback report.</i></p> <p>CTCF reported new knowledge and old knowledge affirmed by the members it interviewed. They have committed to use the agro ecological principles as described in the book Lessons from Nature. There was also a resolve to apply the strategies they have learned to enter into the export market for organic tea .<i>Please see Annex 5 for CTCF feedback report.</i></p> <p>VNFU interviewed 30 members (02 readers from VNFU Center for Sustainable Development, 03 readers from VNFU Vocational Training School, 02 readers from VNFU Farmers Supporting Center, 03 readers from Northern College for Agriculture and Rural Development, 03 readers from Vietnam Organic Association, 4 local VNFU staff, 03 farmer trainers, 10 farmers) on the content of the translation materials. There was new knowledge gathered as well as old knowledge affirmed. The farmers committed to apply new knowledge learned. <i>Please see Annex 6 for VNFU feedback report.</i></p> <p>PAKISAMA, NLRF and KKM has not yet submitted its feedback report as of this writing. However, PAKISAMA and KKM printed 100 copies each of their translated materials, and NLRF printed 500 copies of the translated book.</p>
<p>strengthened member-to-member cooperation</p>	<p>list of materials of AFA member which was translated by another member -bilateral communications between members</p>	<p>The book "Lessons from Nature ", which was written by Shimpei Murakami, now Chairperson of AFA, was translated into Filipino (PAKISAMA), Bangla (KKM), Nepali (CTCF), Vietnam (VNFU). SKP of Thailand also committed to translate it.</p> <p>NLRF asked CTCF to give them some copies of the translated Lessons from Nature so they can distribute to other members as well.</p>
<p>Objective : To identify, translate and disseminate best and most practical literature- manual,</p>	<p>number of translated literature on sustainable agriculture</p>	<p>SA material translated from Vietnamese to English : A Manual : What is Organic Agriculture</p> <p>SA Materials written by members with the help of the Project : Agus Pinoy Cooperative, IDOFS,</p>

<p>guide, video- on sustainable agriculture/agro-ecology</p>	<p>-number of farmers who received translated copies</p>	<p>Guide to Organizing Farmers for the Landless Movement</p> <p>SA Materials translated from English to members language :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lessons from Nature – Filipino, Bangla, Nepali, Vietnamese -Starting a Cooperative- Filipino -Organic Revolution – Nepali -Entering the Organic Export Market- Nepali -Handbook of Climate Resilient Agriculture- Bangla -ICA Blueprint- Mongolian <p><i>(please see weblink for these materials)</i></p> <p>100 farmers in each of the seven participating countries were given hard copies of the translated materials.</p> <p>The materials will be uploaded in website this March.</p>
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Assessment viz Objective

The project only had one objective : To identify, translate and disseminate best and most practical literature- manual, guide, video- on sustainable agriculture/agro-ecology. To a certain extent, this was achieved. The book Lessons from Nature which was written by current AFA Chairperson Shimpei Murakami was translated into four languages. Nine new SA materials were shared with AFA members. And one Vietnamese SA material was shared to members as well when VNFU translated this into English. However, only 7 out of 13 targetted FO members participated in this project. The main constraint was the timing and the low budget for translation. There was only less than two months to translate the material and during this time, the members were busy in their year-end preparations. To be able to translate long materials would require hiring professional translators which was costly and way beyond the budget.

In November 2015, AFA representatives participated in the Regional Symposium on Agroecology . AFA learned that FAO Rome wanted to publish articles on “agro ecology in action”. In February, AFA submitted the draft write up on the integrated diversified organic farming and in March, the case study on Agus Pinoy Cooperative.



Chapter 3: Activities not undertaken as planned

PAKISAMA wanted to write the successful experience of IDOFS and the Agus Pinoy Cooperative while NLRP its experience on organizing farmers for the landless movement. However, both still did not have available case studies or guide, and had to write it, based on existing powerpoint presentations and interviews with key informants.

Chapter 4: Implemented follow-up to advisory services

Agriterra organized FACT training with AFA staff as one of the trainers.

Chapter 5: Planning of next period, from which Agriterra support is expected

We hope to upload the translated materials on last week of March 2016. We hope to discuss with Agriterra during its mission in Philippines areas for partnership in the future.

Annexes

- Annex 1 Matrix which AFA members were asked to fill out
- Annex 2 Consolidated list of best literature as suggested
- Annex 3 Monitoring tool for the translation of SA material
- Annex 4 NAMAC feedback report
- Annex 5 CTCF feedback report
- Annex 6 VNFU feedback report