



Summary Report

IFAP ASIAN REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

6-10 November 2007
Hanoi Horizon Hotel, Hanoi, Vietnam

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The meeting focused on the following:

- 1) EMERGING issues which are major concerns of farmers in Asia –Pacific (East Asia-Korea), (South Asia- India), (West Asia-Turkey), (S.E. Asia- Vietnam), (Pacific- Fiji)
- 2) The IFAP Strategic Plan and Implementation status
 - Briefing by IFAP Secretary General
 - Status of policy issues elevated by IFAP to international level
- 3) WTO negotiations and implications
- 4) Rural credit schemes and how farmers can have access to them
- 5) Food quality, certification, and geographic indication
- 6) Food security vis a vis climate change: The Case of IRRI
- 7) Research in Use (RIU) by Natural Resources International
- 8) Current initiatives in biofuels in the region and how farmers can benefit from them
- 9) Strengthening and Empowering Farmers in the Market (new initiatives, lessons learned from innovative marketing schemes and policy implications)
 - The case of Contract Farming by the Philippines Northern Mindanao Vegetable Producers
 - Supply Chain Management : A case of Public-Private partnership in China 10) Empowering farmers through ICT
 - a private initiative India's village

Interesting notes of presentations

- Agriterra is supporting financial, economic and political services, social and technical services for farmers and special services for women's farmers. activities are Market development, Organizational strengthening, Microfinance, Enterprise development, Lobby and support for micro-entrepreneurs. www.agriterra.org
- AGRICORD is providing farmers in capacity building such as grassroot participation, farmer to farmer technical exchange, productivity and chain development, agricultural education and publications, research for development in agriculture, women farmer's organizations and processing aricultural products.
- Roles of different players- IFAP as policy making organization, AGRICORD as coordinating agency and Faemer Organizations as project implemneters by supported by agri-agencies. the target group consists of small holder farmers and their farmers controlled organizations. www.ifap.org

- AusAIDS support in agriculture- Macro-level governance, Local governance and service delivery, Rural enterprise development, Community driven development and Rural sector resource management. www.usaid.gov.au
- Research in Use can support appropriate information on agricultural technologies, practices and processes to users and to channel demand for new information to researchers, To enhance the 'upscaling' of the lessons learned by the programme, To undertake capacity-strengthening/training activities science-writing. www.researchintouse.com
- While the farmers benefit through enhanced farm productivity and higher farm gate prices, ITC benefits from the lower net cost of procurement (despite offering better prices to the farmer) having eliminated costs in the supply chain that do not add value. www.apaari.org
- OMK gave a short talk (overview) about YPARD and how YPARD can involve in young farmer's activities of Southeast Asia.

Discussion points related to YPARD

- Young farmers need to build a net work for the future and to connect with YPARD
- Most participants mentioned a need of participation of young professionals from Research Institutes and Agricultural Universities of SEA on farmer led-experiment projects. In this case, YPARD can contact with young professionals from YPARD and contribute research designs, methodologies and of course, can share the results.
- It was discussed lack of interest of young professional's and young farmers for grass root's levels. It is very important that community must understand the simple research techniques and how to apply research results to their daily farming system.
- Need involvement of multi-stakeholders especially in Asian countries to form a young farmer network.
- In SEA, farmer associations from Lao PDR and Myanmar need to involve in IFAD.
- From SEA, OMK got a connection with Vietnam Farmer's Union (VNFU) , Faculty of Agriculture from Hanoi Agriculture University, young researcher and extension staff from Plant Protection Department, Ministry of Agriculture from Vietnam, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance, Free Farm from the Philippines and Cambodian Farmers Association Federation for Agricultural Development from Cambodia.
