



Workshop on Technology Transfer for Sustainable Agriculture

28 April - 2 May 2014, Bogor, Indonesia

PRESS STATEMENT

Strengthening national capacities for transfer of technologies to promote sustainable agriculture

Bogor, 28 April 2014: About 30 officials from Lao People's Democratic Republic, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Timor-Leste representing their Ministry of Agriculture and related government agencies working in agricultural policy and extension, gathered in Bogor, Indonesia, on 28 April 2014 to commence a training on technology transfer for sustainable agriculture. The training aims to strengthen national capacities for transfer of agricultural technologies that are sustainable, productivity-enhancing, gender sensitive, and suitable for resource poor farmers, thereby promoting improved food security.

The workshop that takes place from 28 April to 2 May is jointly organized by the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (CAPSA), a subsidiary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD), Ministry of Agriculture, and AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center.

The increasing demand for food as a result of rising population, higher incomes levels, and changes in dietary patterns continues to challenge the world. To meet this demand and boost food production by an estimated 60-70 per cent by 2050 to feed the world population requires intensification of crop production, particularly higher yields and cropping intensity. At the same time, these changes demand enhancing sustainability of production systems and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

The identification, dissemination, adaptation and adoption of appropriate technologies are critical to help farmers bridge the yield gap and increase output to achieve sustainable production growth. The training aims to address these challenges by strengthening the skills and understanding of national change agents at both the technical and policy levels to better equip them to transfer knowledge effectively to the farming community, particularly smallholder farmers.

The training is conducted as part of CAPSA's capacity building programme on sustainable agriculture and complements outreach activities organized under SATNET Asia, a Knowledge Network facilitated by CAPSA and funded by the European Union. Moreover, the year 2014 represents the 40th anniversary of IAARD and this training marks the continued strengthening of international cooperation efforts of the Government of Indonesia in the field of sustainable agriculture, poverty alleviation and food security.

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About ESCAP

From its HQ in Bangkok, ESCAP provides a forum for its member States that promotes regional cooperation and collective action, assisting countries in building and sustaining shared economic growth and social equity.

ESCAP provides different forms of assistance to member States:

- *ESCAP promotes rigorous analysis and peer learning through its core work areas: macroeconomic policy and development, trade and investment, social development, transport, statistics, environment and development, information communications technology and disaster risk reduction;*
- *ESCAP translates these findings into policy dialogues and recommendations, and;*
- *ESCAP provides good development practices, knowledge sharing and technical assistance to member States in the implementation of these recommendations.*

About IAARD

Founded in 1974, IAARD is a top-level unit within the Ministry of Agriculture. The agency's functions are performed by eleven research centers with main function to manage research and development on food crops, horticulture, estate crops, livestock, veterinary, soil and agro-climate, agro-socio economics, machinery development, post-harvest, biotechnology and agricultural technology assessment. IAARD also manages five institutes focusing on estate crops, grouped under the Indonesian Research Institute for Estate Crops (IRIEC). These cover research on oilpalm, rubber, tea and cinchona, coffee and cacao, and sugar.

IAARD is a key research and development institution producing and developing agricultural innovations to support the realization of the industrial agriculture system in Indonesia. Its mission focuses on the following:

- *producing and developing technological innovations and policy recommendations in the agricultural sector in supporting the realization of the industrial agriculture system;*
- *improving the quality of agricultural research resources as well as the efficiency and effectiveness of their uses; and*
- *developing national and international networks to master science and technologies and improving the role of IAARD in agricultural development.*