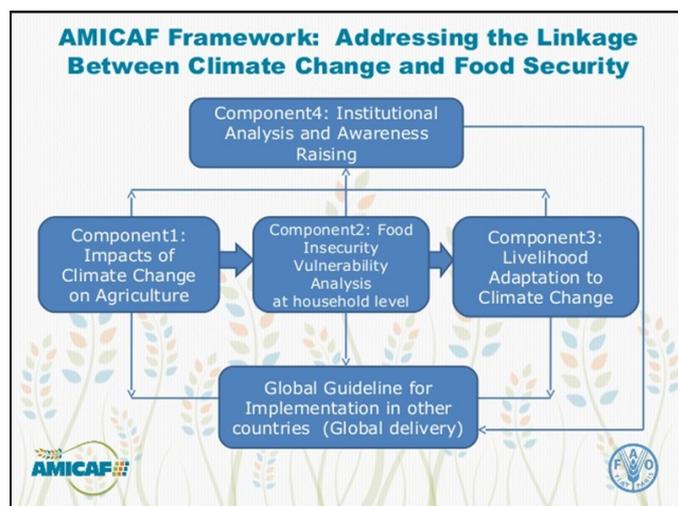


Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation: Initiatives in the Philippines

The Philippines is known to be at risk and highly vulnerable to climate change. According to 2012 World Risk Report, Philippines is 3rd most disaster risk country worldwide. It is also the 4th among 190 countries that suffered the most extreme weather events such as flooding and typhoons (2013 Global Climate Risk Index). Coastal communities, urban poor and smallholder farmers are the major risk groups on this age of climate change. The Philippine government, NGOs, donor institutions and local governments are working together to address the increasing issue of climate change.

Assessments of Climate Change Impacts and Mapping of Vulnerability to Food Insecurity under Climate Change to Strengthen Household Food Security with Livelihoods' Adaptation Approaches (AMICAF)



1. To assist developing countries to address climate change assessment and adaptation, to improve food security through a comprehensive framework
2. The framework would bridge climate change impact assessment, food insecurity, vulnerability analysis and livelihood adaptation approaches

Since 2012, all the four components of the AMICAF is being implemented in the Philippines together with the Department of Agriculture (DA). On the other hand, only the first two components are implemented in Peru through the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. AMICAF project is led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with financial support from Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

For additional details, please go to FAO-AMICAF webpage: <http://www.fao.org/climatechange/amica/en>

Philippine Rice Research Institute: Climate Change Center

The program goal is to develop and extend a comprehensive and judicious understanding of the current and future impacts of climate change, including variability and extremes on the Philippine rice farming system, and to cushion its possible negative effects on the realization of rice self-sufficiency.

The Center provides central direction, leadership and coordination of rice and climate change - related research and development activities and ensures optimum utilization of research outputs related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

For more details, please to go this URL:

http://www.philrice.gov.ph/philrice_docs/highlights/PCCC.pdf

Building Climate Resilience, Transferring Risks and Financing Local Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation Project (CCAP)

MDG-F 1656 Outcome 3.4 Climate Resilient Farming Communities in Agusan del Norte through Innovative Risk Transfer Mechanisms (2009 to 2011)

CCAP is an initiative which developed and applied a financing and risk insurance model to rice and corn farmers in vulnerable areas of Agusan del Norte in North Eastern Mindanao, Southern Philippines. This area is highly vulnerable to climate-related disasters, and especially farmers are largely dependent on “good weather” for their survival and livelihoods.

CCAP approach bundles and rolls out critical financial and non-financial services in an Integrated Financial Package (IFP) to farmers who are made more vulnerable to climate-related risks by their poverty and lack of access to financial and productive resources.

Beyond protecting crops and possible loss of income from disasters, CCAP addressed the most important issues of safety and prevention of loss of lives by helping its priority communities establish its early warnings systems. The weather devices installed in the communities served not only to monitor the possible breach in the indices for the Weather-Indexed-based Insurance (WIBI) but also provided the much needed information for disaster preparedness and early warning. Manual rain gauges, flood water level gauges and warning signages were installed in flood prone barangays to support the automatic weather station.

For more details, please go to the following URL: http://www.ilo.org/manila/aboutus/WCMS_124608/lang--en/index.htm

Climate Resiliency Field School (CrFS) to improve farmer's income and livelihood



Agro-met station in Gerona, Tarlac

Rice Watch Action Network (RI) in partnership with local governments of Gerona, Tarlac and Irosin, Sorsogon; NGOs, alternative community-centered organizations for rural development (ACCORD) and Integrated Rural Development Foundation (IRDF) and the Philippine Atmospheric and Geophysical Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), initiated the Climate Resiliency Field School (CrFS) towards a climate-informed, sustainable and resilient agriculture in Gerona, Tarlac and Irosin, Sorsogon from June to October 2011.

CrFS was instrumental in providing and sharing information including climate forecast and related information, farming knowledge, technologies and skills in building and strengthening the capacities of farmers. Its concept was patterned after the Farmers Field School (FFS) which was designed for Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Like the FFS, the CrFS is a season-long training conducted in the field, learner-centered, participatory, and relies on an experiential learning approach.* The first CrFS experience was pioneered by the Municipality of Dumangas, Iloilo which they called Climate Field School.

The main goal of RI's CrFS is to build and institutionalize Early Warning System (EWS) for Agriculture. A critical component of this EWS in agriculture would be the setting up of the Municipal Climate Information and Monitoring Center. This center will record local weather data, localize and disseminate weather, and climate forecast and advisories; liaise with PAGASA and determine their own climate change impact thresholds as the center moves towards a more precise, climate-informed, strictly localized municipal climate change adaptation plan.

The CrFS consists of more than 16 sessions covering topics on weather and climate, climate change and sustainable agriculture. It provides different learning experiences to farmers and Agricultural Technicians (ATs), aiming to:

1. increase their awareness and familiarization to concepts and issues
2. promote skills enhancement through learning by doing
3. encourage innovation by applying the learning.

Please visit the following for more details,
<http://www.r1phils.org/CRFS.html>

The Department of Agriculture (DA) Climate Change Program

Vision: A climate risk-resilient Philippine Agriculture and Fisheries with healthy, safe, prosperous and self-reliant farming and fishing communities, and thriving and productive ecosystems.

Goal: To build the adaptive capacity of farming and fishing communities and increase the resilience of natural ecosystems to climate change, and optimize adaptation with mitigation opportunities towards sustainable development.

The department established four strategic objectives to make DA's plans and programs climate change compliant or climate proof. The objectives are the following:

1. To increase the adaptive capacity and productivity potentials of agriculture and fisheries livelihoods by modifying commodity combinations to better meet weather issues and natural resource endowments
2. To redefine or remap the Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones (SAFDZ) by including climate change vulnerabilities as part of mapping variables
3. To redefine the agriculture development planning framework by including key factors/variables associated with climate change
4. To develop a new framework and plan for the provision of "new" government agriculture services towards accelerated development of climate-smart agriculture and fisheries industries.

DA Systems-Wide Programs on Climate Change

- a) Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Initiatives in Agriculture (AMIA)
- b) Climate Information System (CIS)
- c) Philippine Adaptation and Mitigation in Agriculture Knowledge Toolbox
- d) Climate-Smart Agriculture Infrastructure
- e) Financing and Risk Transfer Instruments on Climate Change
- f) Climate-Smart Agriculture and Fisheries Regulations
- g) Climate-Smart Agriculture Extension System

The Climate Change Systems-Wide Programs (CCSWP) of the DA cut across policy instruments and agencies of the Department. These core system's wide programs will allow the Department to better address climate change vulnerabilities and risks in crafting and implementing the nation's agriculture and fisheries modernization programs.

For more details, please visit the following:
http://www.da.gov.ph/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1233:memorandum-urgent-implementation-of-the-da-climate-change-policy-thrusts-and-programs&catid=107:climate-change