



## BACKGROUND

The **ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN)** is established to ensure that ASEAN Member States (AMS) are in a better position to adapt their agricultural sector to climate change and optimize its mitigation potential. The first major activity of the ASEAN-CRN was to facilitate a coordinated regional study across AMS in early 2014 to assess the vulnerability of food crops and promote climate smart agriculture (CSA) practices for regional cooperation among AMS. In 2015, three major events were held by the ASEAN-CRN:

- the 4th ATWGARD Workshop on the Promotion of Resilience in Rice and Other Crops;
- the ASEAN-CRN Workshop on Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture Practices in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; and,
- the First ASEAN-CRN Planning Meeting in Bali, Indonesia

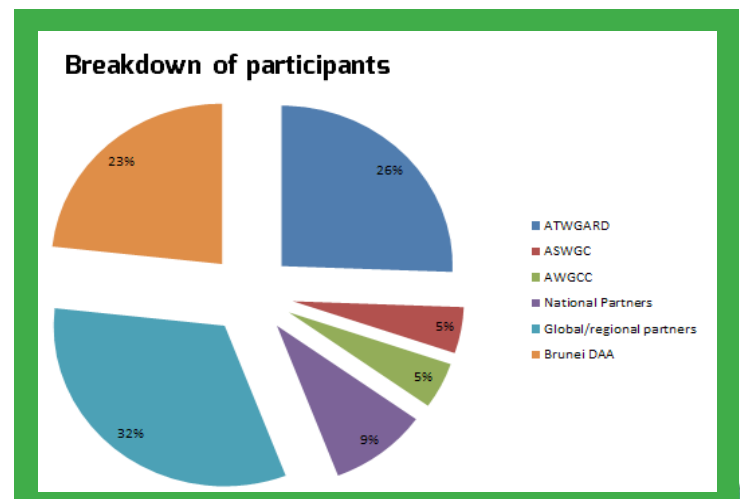
Based on the outputs of those events, significant progress was made over the last year in moving forward the agenda of the ASEAN-CRN. Some major outputs to mention are:

- the ASEAN Regional Guidelines for Promoting CSA Practices (Regional Guidelines);
- project ideas to raise climate change funds for the agricultural sector;
- the ASEAN-CRN Action Plan 2016-2017;
- two ASEAN submissions to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and,
- strong partnerships developed with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), and USAID's Mekong ARCC project

As a follow-up activity, the 2nd ASEAN-CRN Meeting has been conducted on 27 April 2016 in Brunei Darussalam, back to back

with the 11th Meeting of the ASEAN Technical Working Group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD) with the following objectives: provide an update on ASEAN-CRN activities and achievements over the last year; coordinate ongoing activities under the ASEAN-CRN Action Plan 2016-2017; update ASEAN-CRN members on recent developments regarding climate change and agriculture in ASEAN; facilitate necessary decision making to advance the agenda of the ASEAN-CRN; and, introduce and form partnerships with relevant projects in the region.

The meeting was attended by the 10 AMS and ASEAN-CRN focal points from three ASEAN Technical Working Groups – ATWGARD, ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops (ASWGC), and the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC). National, regional, and global partners working on climate resiliency in agriculture were also in attendance.



## HIGHLIGHTS of DISCUSSIONS

### ASEAN-CRN Action Plan 2016-2017: Overview and Progress

- Myanmar suggested to revise the ASEAN-CRN 2-Year Action Plan and be part of the participating AMS under field cooperation no. 4 – Appropriate CSA Technology Practice
- Review and update of the 2-Year Action Plan for the benefit of the network members who were not able to attend the 1st ASEAN-CRN Planning Meeting
- Translation of the Regional Guidelines in local languages (e.g. Laos, Myanmar, etc.)

### Knowledge Exchange and South South Cooperation

- The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) will take note of other activities in AMS to explore possible collaboration and exchange under the AMIA project in the Philippines
- Cambodia is interested to undertake knowledge exchange activities between AMS for its agricultural extension leaders. ASEAN-CRN, as a knowledge exchange platform, could facilitate this exchange. Cambodia will contact the CRN secretariat to initiate the process
- Laos is interested to learn Indonesia's experiences on Climate Information Services (CIS); the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD), with support from GAP-CC, could develop a concept note to initiate this process.

### Policies and Joint Statements

Experiences in the process of submitting the ASEAN-CRN submissions to SBSTA:

- Challenges in ministerial endorsements in Thailand, particularly at the Committee of Negotiations under the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MONRE); unfamiliarity with the submission process
- Thailand's suggestion to the ATWGARD and ASWGC to delegate agriculture focal points to the UNFCCC
- Same issues and questions were also addressed by Vietnam MONRE but the reasons why ASEAN needs to submit all documents has been justified by MARD
- Coordination at the national and regional levels are not easy, it has to pass through both formal and informal and even personal process
- There is a need to be pro-active in making things happen

Recommendations and insights on how to make the ASEAN-CRN SBSTA submission and similar processes more effective and efficient in the future:

- The SBSTA submissions constitutes a common position by the AMS, which has received endorsements on several levels from various working groups and the Senior Officials Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF)
- A lesson learned for ASEAN as it is its first experience in submitting to SBSTA
- Vietnam will discuss the ASEAN common position in SBSTA 44 in Bonn, Germany in May 2016
- Thailand's suggestion to undergo a process of getting a ministerial approval and be part of the agriculture negotiating party to the UNFCCC
- ASEAN-CRN to continue engaging with FAO and CCAFS in the SBSTA and UNFCCC processes
- Three recommendations from Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA): (1) look into and learn from the practical experiences and processes from the ASEAN working groups such as the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), ASEAN Regional Knowledge Networking on Forest and Climate Change (ARKN-FCC); (2) SOM-AMAF to communicate with the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN), and discuss interest to take part in the UNFCCC process and see a general collaborative support, laying down stakes and processes, and addressing key issues of SOM-AMAF; this will pave the way for ASOEN and subsidiary working groups to understand, and facilitate

ASEAN Inter-sectoral communication and then trickle down to national communication processes; (3) recognize that in each agency in the United Nations, there is an ASEAN focus. ASEAN needs to reach out and inform them of the process, which can be used as basis as far as agriculture is concerned, so AMS can coordinate and pave the way for a joint regional coordination

### Pilot CSA Promotion Activities in AMS

CGIAR-member countries in Southeast Asia can tie up with CIAT with regard to their national contributions on CSA promotions; the challenges in CIAT is to balance commodity-based activities for each specific member states with climate change activities

On the AMS ownership of Cooperation Plan for Smart Rice LAMA/NAMA Development in Indonesia:

- BRIA also looks in to the rice value chain development, especially in promoting sustainable rice production. Looks into several aspect as part of the sustainable rice production: sustainable climate smart practices that have low input cost and increasing productivity; how these practices, once implemented, can link the farmers and products to certain standards which can be further taken up and appreciated by the rest of the value chain
- One of the challenges is how to document the evidence. On that round, BRIA in Indonesia took the initiative to work with the other two GIZ projects to provide a platform for this operation – to show proof of evidence and enhance capacity of farmers and local extension workers.
- Looks into linking rice value chain development with climate smart efforts promoted by the ASEAN-CRN among the AMS

The AMS, especially those who are not yet involved yet, were encouraged to take note of these initiatives and partnerships and link with them for scaling out the priority CSA practices.

### Regional Initiatives for Possible Collaboration

#### Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (World Food Programme-CLEAR)

- The exercise is mostly done through field consultations, as well as with different ministries involved in agriculture/climate change/livelihood activities, as well as those interested in the activity
- Results of the activity are used for planning, responses, allocation/targeting for activities related to climate change; another application is on designing appropriate disaster response
- CLEAR reports will be shared to the ASEAN-CRN
- Training activities on CLEAR are internal to WFP at the moment – conduct of in-country analysis. The next CLEAR analysis training is in Myanmar in 2016. Anyone from ASEAN-CRN is invited to join but needs to inform WFP soonest
- The CLEAR project is an example of using an analysis to move forward and use the results as basis to conceptualize proposals and ideas, especially on the practices promoted by the ASEAN-CRN to improve climate resilience

#### Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA) Knowledge Action Group

- There is a benefit in sharing the lessons from the ASEAN-CRN to other regions as well since there is an opportunity for South South cooperation, and GACSA can be an avenue for an exposure in a global scale
- On the GACSA CSA briefs, a template containing guidelines, to help write the CSA briefs, is available. GACSA can help improve the quality and publish and promote the briefs as well
- For countries who are interested to be a member of GACSA, Mr. Dinesh can help in linking them with the membership team
- Data/information from GACSA is available in English at the moment

### Agriculture Services Programme for Innovation, Resilience and Extension (IFAD-ASPIRE)

- Extension is important in scaling-up CSA practices
- For 2016, the focus of the project is on vulnerability risk assessment related to climate change to be contracted to local institutes to do assessments and come up with proposals, concept notes, and terms of reference
- All International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) programs have Adaptation For Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP) grants, in which for the ASPIRE project, USD 15M has been committed (mainly for technical assistance)
- All interested AMS can contact Dr. Mak Soeun to explore possible collaboration and access to the ASAP funds; likewise, announcements will also be made by IFAD in its website

### Gender and CSA (WOCAN)

- The Gender Integrated Planning can be tailored and packaged depending on the client's needs; normally with a period of 3-5 days. Costs will depend on the extensiveness of the program/package
- Best practices/stories are available via case studies developed by the Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & Natural Resource Management (WOCAN) showing that women really enhanced their adaptive capacities after the trainings. These were also presented in conferences and knowledge markets which can be shared by WOCAN
- There is suggestion for CIAT to integrate and fund the Gender Integrated Planning course for the ASEAN-CRN
- Various tools are available to integrate gender into programs and activities, such as gender disaggregated data to see how many farmers benefit, etc. There are tools and practices that can be incorporated to the programs but knowing how to use them is important as well.

### Enhancing Climate Resilience through Social Forestry

- Social forestry can be the answer to CSA promotion that is effective both for large-scale producers and smallholder farmers
- Beyond technology, what is important for social forestry is policy support for land tenure and rights reform – recognizing the rights of people to own, manage and benefit from the land
- Border between agriculture and forestry is a sliding scale – 90% of the drivers for deforestation are outside the forest sector (agriculture, mining, energy, etc.)
- A cross-sectoral dialogue is important because it needs a concentrated integrated approach (policies, technologies, etc.) to solve interlinked problems. One mechanism for collaboration is through a multi-sectoral forum for food security and climate change
- Regional platforms, such as the ASEAN-CRN, provide support to AMS as well as make consistent kinds of message, mobilize collective efforts from the country side and development

partners; interlink agriculture and forestry/environment through inter-sectoral coordination within the work of the ASEAN-CRN, or within the context of the SBSTA submission; suggestions from the AMAF and the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN), and at the national level to look at inter-sectoral coordination

- What is missing in forestry and agriculture are the inter-sectoral issues, and promotion of a more collective and inter-sectoral coordination position and arrangements

### **Climate Funds Access, Ideas in the Pipeline**

FAO proposals to: Department for International Development (DFID), Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), and International Climate Initiative (IKI)

- FAO has done a mapping exercise between Country Programme Framework and (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) submissions; ASEAN-CRN can explore possible collaboration; FAO will send the analysis to AMS to form basis for discussions
- FAO to gather feedback from the ASEAN-CRN on the proposal to be submitted to IKI administered by German government (BMUB)
- On transitional issues in support of the NDCs implementations, it was suggested for FAO to mobilize transitional support for countries who have not identified their targets (through the global plan/program of integrating agriculture to National Adaptation Plans)
- Suggestion to conduct a training on NDC and COP21 101 – beginner level – especially for the agriculture sector

Myanmar United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) grant/Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)/Climate Technology Network and Finance Centre (CTNFC)

- Challenges: difficulty, slow process, and confusion when it comes to the requirements
- UNEP to step in to fast track the process of accessing the funds
- ASEAN-CRN members can be utilized to intervene (in terms of communicating with CTCN/CTNFC focal points from the Ministries of Environments, etc.) to further speed up the process

With regard to the proposal of the Philippine Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR) on the establishment of the Philippine Climate Resilience Network, there was a suggestion for DA-BAR and CIAT to sit together and discuss how the two programs/projects can be harmonized and aligned together, including provisions for funding support.

As regards the World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD), it was suggested for the CRN focal point of Singapore (Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority) to liaise with the WBCSD Singapore country office on behalf of the ASEAN-CRN.

## **Strategies to access climate finance – national and regional approaches**

### **Concept-based Strategies**

Packaging CSA Technologies (at landscape approach and agro-ecological vulnerabilities) Upland, lowland, deforested land, mined lands, peat lands, coastal, flood-prone
<b>Fund</b> (to be identified)
<b>Applicant/implementer</b> WFP, CIAT, CCAFS, ASEAN-CRN, IRRI, CCAFS, WOCAN, Thailand DOA, IAARD
<b>Proponent AMS</b> Brunei, Cambodia, Lao DOA, Malaysia, Myanmar (Department of Agriculture, Yezin Agricultural University), Philippines, Vietnam
<b>Deadline</b> (to be identified)

A concept note will be prepared in order to match this to existing funds

Improving access to climate information services to increase resiliency of agriculture in ASEAN
<b>Fund</b> IKI-BMUB
<b>Applicant/implementer</b> RIMES, IAARD (cropping calendar), Myanmar (Department of Meteorology and Hydrology), IRRI
<b>Proponent AMS</b> Brunei, Cambodia, Lao DOA, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam
<b>Deadline</b> 16 June 2016

RIMES and IAARD will write the proposal

(1) Effective models for CSA practice dissemination addressing challenges for CSA uptake (2) Agricultural sector adaptation strategies
<b>Fund</b> (1) Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) - FAO; (2) IKI-BMUB; ASPIRE
<b>Applicant/implementer</b> ASEAN-CRN, FAO, IRRI (Alternate Wetting and Drying, stress tolerant varieties, improved management)
<b>Proponent AMS</b> Brunei, Cambodia (for TCP and ASPIRE funds), Lao PDR (policy & pilot), Malaysia (peat land, drought rice tolerant variety), Myanmar (YAU, "ADAPT"), Philippines, Singapore (for vegetables), Thailand DOA (policy & pilot), Vietnam (pilot)
<b>Deadline</b> (1) TCP/FAO: (to be identified) (2) IKI-BMUB: 16 June 2016 (3) ASPIRE: (to be identified)

IRRI (c/o Romeo Labios) and FAO (c/o Soojin Kim) will write the proposals

### Concept-based Strategies (to support regional exchange)

Regional Exchange to advance the use of climate services for agro-advisory
<b>Fund:</b> SEI, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
<b>Applicant/implementer:</b> ASEAN-CRN, RIMES, IRRI, Environmental Change Institute - University of Oxford
<b>Proponent AMS:</b> Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam
<b>Deadline:</b> 30 June 2016

IRRI will write the proposal (c/o Tri Setiyono)

Regional Exchange on pilot agriculture insurance schemes in ASEAN
<b>Fund:</b> SEI, CIDA
<b>Applicant/implementer:</b> ASEAN-CRN
<b>Proponent AMS:</b> Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, CIAT
<b>Deadline:</b> 30 June 2016

ASEAN-CRN and Vietnam will write the proposal

### Partnership strategies (ideas for engagement)

ASEAN Framework on Forestry and Climate Change	GACSA	WBCSD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-organize a series of high-level policy dialogue on cross-sectoral/integrated approaches to climate resilient land and resource management</li> <li>Engage various stakeholders involved in forest protection and development</li> <li>More incentives provided to local people for policy implementation</li> <li>Scenarios engagement process: testing current policies toward multiple futures –ECI (Oxford)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender + CSA (WOCAN)</li> <li>Indicators to assess good CSA – what makes a good CSA (Vietnam)</li> <li>Case studies on where Cambodia is on CSA (Cambodia)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform of ASEAN-CRN priorities</li> <li>Upscaling CSA practices through PPP (Thailand DOA)</li> <li>Fund a dialogue between business and CSA practitioners</li> <li>Wt standard measure women empowerment</li> <li>Timber code of origin enforcement</li> <li>Avoiding deforestation; non-timbre forest product development in rural areas; protect livelihood in target areas (Laos)</li> <li>Promoting inclusiveness of agribusiness models in Vietnam</li> </ul>