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The Philippines – Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-Ag) Inception Report

Inception Workshop Overview

Date: 26 October 2016

Location: Quezon City, Philippines

Organizers: Department of Agriculture of the Philippines, FAO, UNDP

The Inception Workshop was attended by 17 participants representing the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Climate Change Commission (CCC), the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

Workshop Objectives:

- To provide a better understanding of the objectives, outputs and proposed institutional arrangements for the NAP-Ag programme in the Philippines, and gather inputs from project stakeholders on the project work plan and activities;
- To sensitize stakeholders on the NAP development process, landscape planning approaches, monitoring and evaluation, municipal level sub-seasonal forecasting for solar radiation and wave height, and the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Plan (AFMP).

Highlights:

- The Philippines UNDP Programme Manager, Ms. Floradema Eleazar, acknowledged that the Philippines is at the forefront of adaptation to climate change, but stressed the country's vulnerability to climate change. She urged stakeholders to include adaptation into their national development planning activities;
- Mr. Lerey Panes, the Assistant Secretary for Planning, Project Development and Special Projects in the Department of Agriculture (DA), called for a shift from business-as-usual planning strategies, to a focus on public investment in agriculture and infrastructure that can withstand the shocks of climate change. Mr. Panes welcomed the contributions of the NAP-Ag programme and the support of its Global Programme in assisting the DA to bring stakeholder institutions to address the challenges in integrating the agriculture sectors into national adaptation planning;
- Mr. Claudius Caesar Gabinete, National Project Coordinator for the NAP-Ag programme in the Philippines, presented the draft work plan. He highlighted that while the outcomes were determined at a global level and were fixed, the outputs and activities could be modified to reflect country needs;

- Dr. Alice Ilaga, Director of System-Wide Climate Change Office in the Department of Agriculture, reported on the department's progress in mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) as realized in the national programme on Adaptation and Mitigation in Agriculture (AMIA). Director Ilaga stated that NAP-Ag activities will help to fill in the remaining gaps in AMIA strategy, including improved access to external climate finance;
- Ms. Maricar Palaña from the CCC shared that the Commission has started to review the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP), and that the next step is to integrate NAP activities into the NCCAP. The CCC has stated that that the NCCAP will serve as the NAP;
- Ms. Analyn Solis, a representative from PAGASA, called for the integration of weather and climate information into planning for the agriculture sectors at various timescales. Ms. Solis identified gaps for reducing climate risk for the agriculture sectors. Examples include the need to interact with the right partners to bring knowledge into decision-making, and the integration of climate forecasts into farming activities.

Work Plan Summary:

OUTCOME 1	Timeline
Output 1.1: Awareness and capacity building of national and sub-national government agencies as well as state universities and colleges in implementing climate change and DRR-mainstreamed landscape approaches into system-wide planning and operations	2016-2018
Output 1.2: Development of Enhanced Seasonal (3 months) Climate Products for Agriculture and Fisheries	2016-2017
Output 1.3: Support the feasibility and development of a national climate information system for agriculture in the Philippines	2016-2017
OUTCOME 2	
Output 2.1: Updating of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Plan (AFMP) integrating CCA and DRRM	2016-2018
Output 2.2: Integration of the Updated CCA DRR-enhanced AFMP into the Philippine Development Plan and the National Adaptation Planning process	2017-2018
Output 2.3: Enhancement of local government unit capacities to access national climate financing mechanisms such as the People's Survival Fund, and others	2017-2018
OUTCOME 3	
Output 3.1: Identification and development of criteria and indicators for M&E on CCA and DRR across agricultural landscapes at the programme level	2017-2018
Output 3.2: Identification of economic valuation tools (benefits and services) for M&E on DRR and CCA for agriculture and fisheries at the programme level	2017-2018
OUTCOME 4	
Output 4.1: Support to the establishment of the Climate and Disaster Risk Information Services Center for Agriculture and Fisheries and enhanced dissemination of climate risk information at different spatial scales	2016-2018

Results:

- The project work plan and timeline for project implementation were endorsed by stakeholders, with the outline directing the activities that need to be done to achieve the project goals, as it is integrated into the current NCCAP;
- A strategy was developed for creating a steering committee to supervise all of the project's activities.

This overview was generated by the Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-Ag) Programme. The full Inception Report and information on other NAP-Ag activities in the Philippines can be found on the following pages:

www.fao.org/in-action/naps/partner-countries/philippines
www.adaptation-undp.org/naps-agriculture/partner-countries/philippines