

AGRICORD

ACTIVITY REPORT 2022

FARMERS'
ORGANIZATIONS
FOR ASIA

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- I. [Example policy paper \(PAKISAMA\)](#)
- II. [Example manual \(PAKISAMA\)](#)

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This Annual Report for AgriCord's FO4A programme covers the activities and progress made during the year 2022.
2. The programme architecture aims at the sustainable development of Farmer Organizations / Farmer-led Organizations in Asia under three main components. All projects of this programme pursue some or all the following goals: 1) the building of FO-capacities to deliver services to FO-members, 2) the creation of conducive and enabling environments for FO-businesses, and 3) the internal organizational development of farmer organizations.
3. Out of twenty (20) sub-projects of this AgriCord programme, twenty (20) were in the implementation phase in 2022.
4. The overall implementation continues as planned with minor adaptations. The first semester was marked by two main challenges: a) rising input prices, and b) unfavourable weather patterns. Production volumes and profits were affected by these circumstances. Restrictions on movement and gatherings due to the Covid-19 pandemic relaxed and allowed for activities to slowly resume in conventional ways. The election period in the Philippines affected the implementation of activities as it would widely catch the attention of the public and farmers, and subsequently reinforced the need on the local level for lobby and advocacy efforts as new officials would commence their new posts.
5. The mainstreaming of gender & youth inclusion, and environmentally sustainable approaches continues and gains relevance in the FO4A programme and among members of the AgriCord alliance in general. In many cases Agri-Agencies employ tools developed in-house and tailored to the needs of FOs.
6. North-South exchanges among peers were limited while local exchanges became more feasible over the year 2022 due to more lenient measures against the spread of Covid-19.
7. AgriCord coordinates closely with the Asian Farmers' Association (AFA) on national-, programme- and alliance-level. The coordination and identification of possible synergies between participants of the programme in the national context has improved in 2022.
8. The updated figures and results of the logical framework are satisfying and indicate a positive trend. Some indicator targets were outperformed in 2022 which allow us to be confident that the implementation will proceed in a similar manner in 2023.
9. The budget execution of the programme is currently behind initial plans. This can be explained by a late programme start and late disbursement of funds in 2021. The execution accelerated through 2022 and we project that the budget will be fully implemented within the overall planned programme period.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 OVERVIEW

10. This document presents the annual progress report of the programme "Farmers Organizations for Asia" for the year 2022, as described in the Grant Agreement N° 2000003703 signed between IFAD and AgriCord in August 2021.
11. The implementation period spans over four years, the effective date of the grant agreement is the 03 August 2021, and the foreseen completion date is the 30 June 2025. The grant agreement includes a retro-active financing totalling 100 000 € for the period from the 1st of January 2021 to the effective date of the agreement.
12. This progress report covers the activities, outputs, outcomes, and results for the implementation period from the 1st of January 2022 to December 31st, 2022.
13. The programme target countries were those countries in Southeast Asia (SEA), where AgriCord-affiliated agri-agencies (AAs) operate. Seven (7) agri-agencies implement project activities, led by national, subnational and/or local FOs and cooperatives in four (4) countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Overall, our partners are responsible for the direct management of twenty (20) projects.
14. Over the course of the year, the AgriCord secretariat actively functioned as communicative link between IFAD and the agri-agencies, monitoring the execution, and accompanying and facilitating to several ad-hoc requests (collection of country-specific documentation, provision of "exit plans", business plans etc.) besides the regular reporting obligations. The secretariat further ensured the knowledge management and visibility at the programme-level.
15. During the first semester National coordination meetings were held in Cambodia, the Philippines and Vietnam. AgriCord and AFA had several virtual meetings to plan the joint launch event and exchange some updates on the program implementation progress.
16. In general, the programme implementation continued in a satisfactory manner during the first semester of 2022. To be noted that the VNFU project in Vietnam supported by AsiaDHRRA only started implementation in July 2022. In general, no acute or severe obstacles were encountered that would make project implementations impossible.

2.2 OBJECTIVES, COMPONENTS, AND OUTCOMES

17. The overall objective of the Project is to increase income and to improve livelihood, food and nutrition security and safety of organized smallholder and family farmers in the target areas. FO4A is demand driven meaning that the identified beneficiary FOs define the needs and priorities during the strategic project design dialogues with the agri-agencies supporting the activities.
18. Fo4A supports the farmers' organisations under three main components:
19. **Component 1: Delivery of economic services along priority value chains**

Economic Services in the context of this program mean „services that enable smallholders to foster partnerships with larger market actors, access and mobilize financing from the private [or

public sector], *increase productivity, reduce risk, manage their produce, create employment, and increase incomes*" (Grant Agreement, p.4).

20. Component 2: Enabling the business environment

Business environments are enabled through advisory services that build the FO's "*capacity to lobby for a more business-enabling environment, from national to international levels –this includes both the policy and regulatory environment for agriculture and business, and the relations with other actors and commercial partners in the value chains*" (Grant Agreement, p.5).

21. Component 3: Institutional strengthening

Institutional strengthening may be achieved through advisory services by the agri-agencies that facilitate the "*undertaking capacity assessments and agreeing on development plans [...] improving information management and planning, and developing inventory and traceability systems [...] as well, gender and youth aspects and considerations [...] ensuring these dimensions are mainstreamed*" (Grant Agreement, p.5).

22. The activities described in this report will be contributing towards the results covered by the indicators in the FO4A logical framework.

23. Agri-agencies support the projects implemented by their FO partners by providing project monitoring and reporting backstopping, by advisory services and by organizing farmer-to-farmer and/or FO to FO peer advice, mentoring, learning exchanges and twinning arrangements.

2.3 FARMER'S ORGANISATIONS AND AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES

24. The table below lists projects that are part of the FO4A programme indicating internal reference (AIN number), implementing Agri-agency and AgriCord member, the country of implementation, the main partner Farmer Organization(s), the title of the project and status (July 2022).

25. The programme is implemented in Cambodia, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam by AgriCord's member agri-agencies - Afdi, AsiaDHRRA, CSA, FFD, Trias, UPA DI and We Effect – and their FO partners. It should be noted the support to AgriCOOPh is covered by different implementation agreements to ensure close budget follow without a risk for double financing of activities, as several agri-agencies will provide technical assistance to AgriCOOPh.

26. Project 8723 with the Viet Nam Farmers Union started with a delay. As recipient of government funds, the Ministry of Finance had to clear the project which took more time than anticipated.

Table 1: Overview Projects

AIN	AA	Country	Partners	Title	Status (Jan23)
8701	FFD	Vietnam	VCA (<i>Vietnam Cooperative Alliance</i>); QNCGA (<i>Quang Ngai Cooperative Alliance</i>); CCCSC (<i>Centre for Climate Change Study in Central Vietnam</i>); PYCA (<i>Phu Yen Cooperative Alliance</i>); NACA (<i>Nghe An Cooperative Alliance</i>)	Towards resilient smallholder forestry in Vietnam	Ongoing
8702	Afdi	Cambodia	FAEC (<i>Facilitation Association of Economy for Cooperatives</i>)	Accompagner les jeunes agriculteurs du Cambodge pour une agriculture familiale durable	Ongoing
8704	We Effect	Philippines	Farmcoop	Farmers fighting poverty through value chain development in Mindanao	Ongoing
8706	Trias	Philippines	LPMP (<i>Labo Progressive Multi-Purpose Cooperative</i>)	Optimizing pineapple value chain cooperation to upscale family farmers enterprise	Ongoing
8707	Trias	Philippines	CANOFECO (<i>Camarines Norte Federation of Cooperatives</i>)	Upscaling organic rice family farming through multi-stakeholder synergy in Bicol	Ongoing
8708	ASIADHRRA	Cambodia	FNN (<i>Food and Nature Net Association</i>)	Market consolidation for small scale farmers in Cambodia	Ongoing
8713	CSA	Philippines	PAKISAMA (<i>Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka</i>)	Family Farmer Organisations (FFOs) empowerment and enterprise development towards sustainability and resilience	Ongoing
8720	CSA	Philippines	AgriCOOPh (<i>Philippine Family Farmers' Agriculture-Fishery-Forestry Cooperatives Federation</i>)	Enhancing economic services to family farmers through strengthening of agriculture cooperatives	Ongoing
8721	ASIADHRRA	Philippines	COMFAS (<i>Coalition of Municipal Fishers Associations in Zamboanga Sibugay</i>)	Maximizing opportunities of local markets for seafood products	Ongoing
8722	ASIADHRRA	Vietnam	AGFU (<i>An Giang Farmers' Union</i>)	Strengthening 10 palm sugar cooperation groups to enhance collective marketing of palm sugar products	Ongoing
8723	ASIADHRRA	Vietnam	VNFU (<i>Viet Nam Farmers Union</i>)	Strengthening the engagement of agricultural cooperatives in the value chain	Ongoing, start 31st of August 2022
8724	ASIADHRRA	Vietnam	PTBC (<i>Phuc Thanh Beekeeping Cooperative</i>)	Strengthening cooperative link with the honey value chain	Ongoing
8725	ASIADHRRA	Indonesia	Ngudi Mulyo	strengthening farmers' learning platform to improve the sustainable agriculture practice and products' marketing of 2 FOs in Gunungkidul districts	Ongoing
8726	ASIADHRRA	Indonesia	KSPS (<i>Komunitas Swabina Pedesaan Salassae</i>)	Scaling-up the development of village-based natural farming in Bulukumba, South Sulawesi	Ongoing
8727	ASIADHRRA	Indonesia	API (<i>Aliansi Petani Indonesia</i>)	Strengthening of FOs capacity in Indonesia to improve agricultural production, value chain, capital access and environmental aspect with collectively economic service and engaging of FOs in relevant policy process	Ongoing

8728	ASIADHRRA	Philippines	ISLACO (<i>Island of Samar and Leyte Agriculture Cooperative</i>)	Business expansion of ISLACO – Philippines	Ongoing
8729	ASIADHRRA	Philippines	MARCCO (<i>Matulatula Agrarian Reform Community Cooperative</i>)	Improving economic viability of MARCCO processing plant	Ongoing
8730	ASIADHRRA	Philippines	AgriCOOPh (<i>Philippine Family Farmers' Agriculture-Fishery-Forestry Cooperatives Federation</i>)	Coop4 Food - Partnership for bridging production and consumption solution	Ongoing
8740	Trias	Philippines	AgriCOOPh (<i>Philippine Family Farmers' Agriculture-Fishery-Forestry Cooperatives Federation</i>)	Reinforcing AgriCOOPh and Mindanao cooperatives towards sustainable economic development	Ongoing
8762	UPA DI, Trias	Indonesia	KSU NM (<i>Ngudi Makmur</i>), HTNM (<i>Himpunan Tani Ngudi Makmur</i>), KOKAMA	Upscaling people-managed sustainable and climate resilient, inclusive, and adaptive local enterprise	Ongoing

2.4 FINANCING (BUDGET)

27. The overall cost of the entire programme is 3,500,000 EUR and is divided as indicated in Table.

Table 2: Budget per Component

Components 1-4 Total	EUR 3.500.000
Component 1: Delivery of Economic Services along Priority Value Chains	EUR 1.950.000
Component 2: Enabling the Business Environment	EUR 588.000
Component 3: Institutional Strengthening / Development of FOs	EUR 860.000
Component 4: Communication and Visibility	EUR 102.000

3 ANNUAL REPORT 2022

3.1 ADAPTATION OF THE WORKPLAN

28. The implementation of the project workplans progressed without serious issues. No project is lagging significantly behind its ambitions or expectations. Most of the planned activities, which were not implemented in the foreseen schedule, will be implemented during the first half of 2023. These adjustments in the schedules have not had a significant impact on the budget execution at the program level. Some small modifications to the plans have been made. An example of the type of modification is the Vietnam project 8701, in which a planned launch event was replaced by financial management and reporting training for project staff, as this was seen more useful by the implementing partners. Any such modifications are in line with the intervention logic and objectives of the program.
29. The following list summarizes the project adaptation of the last year in each project:
30. **8701 / VCA, QNCA, PYCA and NACA / FFD Vietnam:**



Picture: 1 - Forestry app used to collect information and estimate biomass. Katja Vuori (2022)

This initiative aims to create more resilience among smallholder forestry producers in Vietnam. A key goal of the project is the diversification and certification of timber. The implementation of the project progressed satisfyingly and is on track.

31. In 2022, it was decided after extensive dialogues and assessments to pursue FSC certification instead of PEFC. Smallholder certification is ongoing as well as the diversification with beekeeping and indigenous timber varieties. Nurseries are established and seedling production under way. A north-south exchange with the Finnish twinning partner Savotta was conducted. Workshops on L&A aspects took place and the FOs participated in several policy roundtable discussions.

32. 8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:

Picture: 2 - Youth exchange on vegetable growing. Rong Marine (2022)

This project focuses on the integration of young people in the agricultural sector in Cambodia by developing their capacities, structuring their organisations, and strengthening the services of cooperatives and FAEC.

The project experienced a challenging year and remained behind target numbers (24% of planned participants) and reported volatility in rice production and market prices due to unfavourable weather and high input prices. Production volumes remained behind projections.

A notable achievement of the year is the successful organisation of a youth exchange programme between fifty (50) young farmers from ten (10) cooperatives in four (4) provinces on marketing, business planning and technical issues. Two of those young farmers participated in an exchange mission to France. FAEC progressed in its actions on youth inclusion through internal dialogues on constraints and opportunities for young people in agricultural cooperatives.

Afdi highlights that FAEC has recovered from internal shakeups and regained its proper institutional functioning as national FO. Regular meetings on decision making and general assemblies are held.

33. 8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:



Picture: 3 - Sibulan organic zone forum. Farmcoop, We Effect (2022)

This project builds on the gains of the former project *Farmers Fighting Poverty through Cacao, Coffee, Coconut, and Banana Enterprises* (FFP thru 3CBEs), which promoted FO cooperation in the southern part of Mindanao.

In 2022, baseline studies and profiling for six (6) enterprises were completed. Five (5) new business plans were developed for five (5) FOs. The value chains include cacao, taro, coconut, copra nuts. Some of the FOs were already able to access financing and equipment through government agencies.

An enhanced participation of young people is one of the positive developments of 2022. Youth development plans were successfully created for two (2) FOs and three (3) more FOs analysed their baseline data.

34. 8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:



Picture: 4 - Meeting of VSLA Caayunan Group 2 (Samahan ng Mag-iipon sa Caayunan). LPMPC, Trias (2022)

The initiative aims to improve the economic and social well-being of farmers and farm workers especially women and youth through a sustainable and secured livelihood in the

pineapple value chain. In 2022, bolder business targets were formulated due to the relaxing Covid-19 situation. Volumes for decorticated pineapple fibre increased but remain below pre-pandemic levels. The product development of pineapple juice made big advances: a development study was complete, product registration was acquired, a successful negotiation with two buyers (national and local) was achieved. The business volume increased by 18% and representatives of the farmers are well positioned to lobby local administration.

35. **8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:**



Picture: 5 - Members of San Vicente Kaanib Agri Cooperative receiving their share out. CANOFECO, Trias (2022)

The project intends to upscale organic rice family farming through multi-stakeholder synergy in Bicol. CANOFECO and seven (7) FOs are part of this project.

In 2022, the number of farmers applying organic techniques and volume of produce has increased (from 7 to 32 producers, from 2.5 to 6.4 tons) in Camarines Norte. Trainings reached 850 farmers, a participatory guarantee system was drafted, and the FOs engaged with Synergy Pilipinas and submitted a consortium proposal to the EU. Village Saving and Loan Associations were created (from 10 to 19 self-organized groups) with now a total of almost EUR 67,000 in savings available to 916 producers. Grants were secured (Landbank and Department of Agriculture) in a volume of EUR 95,000.

The elections and change of local officers made lobby efforts a priority for the FOs and farmers of CANOFECO in 2022.

36. 8708 / FNN / AsiaDHRRA / Cambodia:



Picture: 6 - Milled rice of Kraing Leav Samaki Agricultural Cooperative. FNN (2022)

This project aims to expand the market access of the farmers under the FNN umbrella.

During 2022 the FNN Shop became fully operational, and its turnover is increasing. Special emphasis was put on the compliance with policies and regulations. Fifteen (15) cooperatives from eight (8) provinces supplied the produce for the shop, with a total revenue of approximately USD 17,000 in 2022.

37. 8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:



Picture: 7 - Learning exchange at FCCT Tuburan Learning Site. Melissa Alamo (2022)

This project aims to enhance capacities of FFOs on organizational governance and management. The goal is to enable them to effectively provide the needed technical farm production and field extension, business development, and advocacy services to its members. Nine (9) FOs under PAKISAMA participate in this project with a varying size of approx. 100 to 4,000 members.

For 2022, 60% of the total membership of the cooperatives were reached by the project through a series of intervention activities such as profiling, organizational and business assessments cum cooperative capacity strengthening intervention planning, farm visits, participation to various advocacy fora, peer-to-peer exchanges, and strategic and annual work planning and budgeting, marketing and training activities on-line as well as General Assemblies conducted for the year with the support of the Local consultants.

Despite a challenging organizational situation related to the functioning of governance bodies, significant achievements were reached in 2022. Firstly, 75% of planned activities were conducted with the cooperative partners. Secondly, an organisational audit was conducted. Thirdly, the project can mobilize resources to expand the cooperatives' operations. And fourthly, the management of cooperative data (production and assets) was digitalized.

38. **8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:**



Picture: 8 - Public Food Procurement Forum. Julian Arriola (2022)

This project is an integrated capacity building intervention program to strengthen AgriCOOPh and its member-cooperatives in providing better service to the family farmer-members.

In 2022, CSA and AgriCOOPh successfully assisted as market intermediators for the flow of goods e.g., through institutional purchase programmes. A public Food Procurement Forum was organized bringing together 59 cooperatives and nine (9) government agencies, effectively enhancing policy dialogue between FOs and public administration. PAKISAMA and AgriCOOPh jointly conducted a three-day joint exchange sessions between eighteen (18) FOs and both organizations we-organized their assignments. Further, the CSA and AgriCOOPh team members expanded their understanding on transversal issues through the Gender and Youth Development Program as well as through Environmental Protection and Disaster Risks Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation sessions conducted with the other AgriCOOPh partner-organizations.

39. **8721 / COMFAS / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

Picture: 9 - Preparing the planting of seaweed. COMFAS, AsiaDHRRA (2022)

This project seeks to maximize opportunities of local markets for seafood products. The project activities were originally conceptualized to support the shift in the production from high end market grouper and sea bass to milkfish, tilapia, seaweeds, and oysters.

In 2022, the fishers came to the realization that the production of milkfish and tilapia was behind technical projections. The results can be explained by changes in weather patterns and water texture. Therefore, the efforts of the project were directed toward oysters and seaweed. Production volumes are already increasing compared to 2021.

Support by the Agri-Agencies was focused on workshops for market access and on business planning. Further, COMFAS was active in several policy processes and some strategic goals for the internal development were formulated including a roadmap to become a unified provincial cooperative.

40. **8722 / AGFU / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:**

Picture: 10 - Sugar juice bottle label. AGFU (2022)

The project strengthens 10 palm sugar cooperation groups to enhance collective marketing of palm sugar products. Main activities in 2022 included the development of marketing opportunities, including identification of potential marketing partners and buyers and drafting of marketing agreements for selling the sugar palm products with the Ho Chi Minh City Farmers' Union and Thu Duc District Farmers Union.

The design of palm sugar juice bottles was finalized as to appeal better to consumers and improve their perception of product quality and safety. A framework contract was signed between AGFU and Thu Duc district FU and Ho Chi Minh City FU during a trade fair in Ho Chi Minh City.

Palm sugar is sold at market prices ranging from VND 25,000/kg to VND 60,000/kg depending on product specificities, buyer, and season.

41. **8723 / VNFU / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:**

The project aims to strengthening the agricultural cooperatives engagement in value chains. The project was launched only on August 31st of 2022 but according to its work plan, the full budget will be implemented well within the implementation period.

42. **8724 / PTBC / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:**

This initiative strengthens cooperative links with the honey value chain.

The individual annual report was not available at the time of consolidation. However, the implementing team has informed the secretariat that the implementation proceeds as planned. The annual report will be submitted once completed. The information on the year 2022 and semester 1 of 2023 will be included in the interim reporting 2023.

43. **8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

Picture: 11 - Bingkon products and local MSME products at the product exhibition. Ngudi Mulyo, AsiaDHRRA (2022)

The project is in Gunung Kidul, Yogyakarta, and aims to strengthening of organizational capabilities for improved economic service delivery of Ngudi Mulyo and GALIH. The project builds on the FFP ASEAN programme and has already resulted an increase of the production of GALIH cocoa beans and expanded the markets for the Ngudi Mulyo's chocolate products. The Ngudi Mulyo community has also become a learning place in natural farming and chocolate production, cultivation, and marketing for many universities and farming communities. The project works also on organic rice production. A subsidy from the director general of plantations was made available for the diversification with ponds and goats.

44. **8726 / KSPS / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

Picture: 12 - Presentation at Natural Farming Forum. KSPS, AsiaDHRRA (2022)

The project scales-up the development of village-based natural farming in Bulukumba district (South Sulawesi) with a territorial approach on agricultural development at village level.

In 2022, the project worked and improved on three aspects: the economic aspect, advocacy-related and organisational. There is a more systematic approach to resource development by the farming communities. The quality of products and derivatives has improved. KSPS influenced several policies and advised local authorities on key policy issues. The development of human resources is ongoing, organizational ties and nodes are improving and the farmers are capacitated to collaborate with governments on the local level.

45. **8727 / API / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**



Picture: 13 - Secretary General of API with the Minister of Villages during an event. API, AsiaDHRRA (2022)

The goal of this project is to strengthen FO capacities in Indonesia to improve agricultural production, value chain, capital access and environmental aspect in the cocoa and coffee sectors.

In 2022, the initiative has started mapping the coffee market for the Sridonoretno Makmur Bersama Cooperative (SDR) as well as for Koperasi Mitra Agribusiness Mandiri Amanah (MAMA). Each targeted FO of the project was equipped with a computer-based accounting system and received trainings for its use, and two (2) staff are constantly available to directly assist cooperatives with technical support on business and financial development.

API's national secretariat has engaged in various informal consultations and meetings with the Ministry of Villages, the Director General of Plantation Crops from the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Cooperatives. On the local level, the cooperatives have established channels with the agriculture and plantation officers in each area.

46. 8728 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRRA / Philippines:

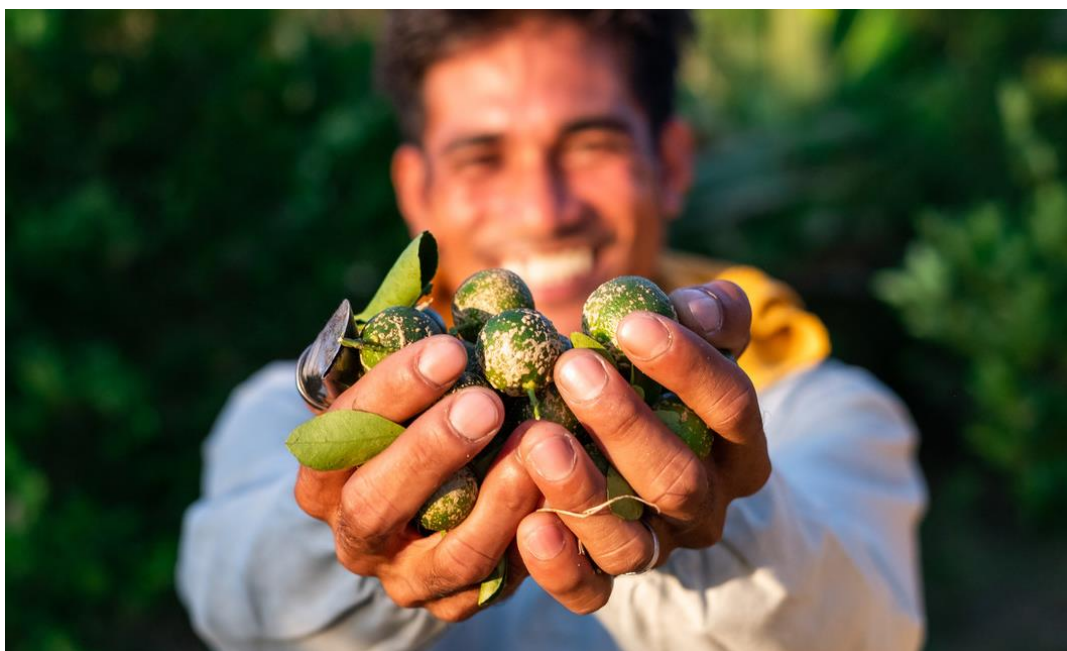
Picture: 14 - Youth participation. ISLACO, AsiaDHRRRA (2022)

This initiative aims to build ISLACO's basic organizational capacity, both organizational capacity, business structures and management systems. A major objective was to relaunch the savings and credit operations, which have been severely affected by the pandemic and rising fuel and input costs.

For 2022, the following achievements can be highlighted:

- Product development and quality improvements resulting from a strong partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry.
- Assessment and planning to revive the declining credit operations of ISLACO were facilitated by AsiaDHRRRA. ISLACO leaders and management are aware of their situation and their options.
- The creation of a participatory space for young farmers by the board in 2022 will be followed by the identification of potential support programmes for youth in 2023.
- A new partnership between ISLACO and the Grameen Foundation-USA will open new opportunities for the FOs in the future.

47. 8729 / MARCCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:



Picture: 15 - FO-member holding calamansi. Isabel Corthier, AgriCord (2020)

This project intends to expand MARCCO's calamansi processing business to attain a profitable level and diversify the farm production to other commodities (aside from calamansi).

The ongoing completion of the calamansi processing plant with electrical upgrades is achieved through a direct cooperation with the Oriental Mindoro Cooperative district. The works on the generator, electrical wiring and transformer will ensure the safety of operations and ensure increase volume of production both for concentrate and RTD juices and calamansi extract as new product to offer.

The partnership with the Land Bank of the Philippines was renewed with a larger credit loan package of PHP 8 million (from 5 million). This additional capital allows MARCCO to expand the processing operations and improve the credit program for farm diversification. The market of MARCCO's citrus products expanded into Batangas City Calapan City and Marinduque in 2022.

Continuous training for MARCCO's board of directors, the management staff and committee members was provided to improve management practices.

MARCCO had registered an estimated net surplus of PHP 1,500 (EUR 25,942) at the end of 2022 compared to PHP 750,000 (EUR 654) in 2021. This increase in net surplus can be attributed to the various income sources of MARCCO particularly calamansi processing, fresh trading, and the credit program.

MARCCO launched the Memorandum of Agreement signing with AgriCOOPh as service provider for advance accounting system (computerization) and started the process.

48. **8730 / AgriCOOPh & SOEMCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**



Picture: 16 - Reconstructed facilities after typhoon Odette. AgriCOOPh, AsiaDHRRA (2022)

This project with AgriCOOPh and SOEMCO, aims to establish swine production in the island municipality of Socorro. Animal feed production, milling, breeding, and marketing are part of it. The island location is suitable to isolate production from sources of contagion for the African Swine Fever which currently circulates in the Philippines.

The start-up activities have proceeded, despite the negative effects of Typhoon Odette that stalled the project implementation for a while. During the period SOEMCO has restocked new gilts, constructed farm structures for pig breeding and fattening, established a small-scale feed mill, cultivated corn and soybeans for feeds and the organizing of clusters in pig fattening and feed ingredient production. The FO4A financial support to AgriCOOPh enabled the mobilization of SOEMCO's internal financial resources combined with the lobby and advocacy that generated financial support from government.

49. **8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:**



Picture: 17 - Visiting aquaculture research facilities. Julian Arriola (2022)

This initiative contributes to providing economic opportunities to family farmers particularly women and youth in Mindanao region.

The highlights in 2022 include:

learning exchanges undertaken for the improvement of economic services of member coops and their smallholder family farmer entrepreneurs. (1) Learning Exchange took place between COMFAS, SOEMCO (Socorro Empowered People's Cooperative) and SPC (Silverbay Producers cooperative) on the environmental sustainability of the operationalization of floating fish cages. (2) Peer-to-peer learning exchange between PUBAC and Guadalupe Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative on the operation of a coop consumer store were conducted.

AgriCOOPh opened markets for member coops' produce to a big government buyer in 2022. DSWD procurement projects are totalling EUR 284,873 (only for business supported by FO4A). The bulk of agriculture products sourced from primary cooperatives (Sto. Nino, LAMAC, Carmen Samahang Nayon, Guadalupe Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative) and marketed under this program is Rice with 607 tons valued at PHP 26.4M and a small volume, of milkfish (.03 tons).

Over the year, the federation's membership grew with an addition of 17 primary agricultural cooperatives totalling 45 primary cooperatives with total membership of 284,873 individuals (195,163 women, 5697 youth)

50. **8762 / KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:**



Picture: 18 - Farmers paying attention during technical training. KSU NM (2022)

The project aims to strengthen and upscale of farmer-owned enterprise in the organic rice, certified rice seeds and modified cassava flour value chains towards inclusive, resilient, relevant, and strong farmer organization in Java, Indonesia.

The project officially launched in 2022 after extensive preparations to establish the new partnerships between UPA DI, Trias, KSU NM, KOKAMA, HTNM, AsiaDHRRRA and InDHRRRA.

The activities in 2022 included technical workshops in cassava and modified cassava flour (including product development), rice and seeds, business planning and collective marketing, organizational assessment, marketing training, trainings on women and youth inclusion participation in product exhibitions and the set-up of natural farming field schools.

3.1.1 COVID-19

51. The extraordinary situations created by the Covid-19 pandemic relaxed over the course of 2022 but was still relevant in most projects in early 2022.
52. A wave of Covid-19 infections still hit the Philippines in January and February which affected the project implementation in several projects.
53. In Cambodia, the pandemic caused a sharp decline in local and international tourists. This has led to a decline in demand for food in some areas, as well as limited the type of buyers available and combined with general economic slowdown resulted to lower household income of farmers.
54. During the first three months of 2022 in Indonesia, the regulations and social restriction were still quite strict. The local government had put in place a program of "Jogo Tonggo" ("take care of your neighbours") with a small supervisory committee on COVID-19 in every village including the project area. The meetings with more than 20 participants were strictly limited and had to be reported to the supervisory committee. This had some negative impact on the participation and attendance in FO4A activities. COVID-19 restriction policies eased up in May and provided more opportunities for the project implementation.

3.1.2 INPUT PRICES

55. Rising costs of necessary farming inputs were frequently reported. Several factors converged last year to create challenging price levels for farmers. They are strongly affected by the general rise in prices as producers and consumers.
56. For example:

The forestry project in Vietnam with VCA and FFD reported high prices for gas and oil resulting in price increases also for derivative products needed for farming inputs. At the same time, exchange rates fluctuate significantly. Both circumstances make the planning and budgeting of expenses challenging.
57. The farmers of CANOFECO in the Philippines reported diminishing profits in the rice sector due to general inflation and the increase in input prices. Their dependency on mineral fertilizer and other external inputs became apparent. There is now a favourable climate toward the adoption of organic agricultural practices as lowered production costs become a crucial argument.
58. Trias and UPA DI reported for Indonesia that the farmers of KSU NM were unable to estimate the impact of rising consumer and input prices for the year 2022 during the interim reporting. The situation for farmers was very fluid. In Cambodia, Afdi and FAEC reported high input prices and unstable prices for rice paddy.

3.1.3 CLIMATE, WEATHER AND ENVIRONMENT

59. During the first semester, unfavourable weather conditions were reported by some agri-agencies and our partners in Asia, however less frequent and severe as our partners in Africa. Typhoon Raj, for example, affected implementation work in the Philippines. This was particularly the case for the work with AgriCOOPh and SOEMCO (AIN nr 8730), which destroyed the breeding house for sows.

60. It was reported that changing patterns of seasonal rainfall cause problems for the agricultural production in some cases. The production of farmers of KSU NM, HTNM and KOKAMA in Indonesia suffered from a prolonged rainy season. It extended well into harvesting period. The vegetable production is faced with looming pest infestation and the cassava harvest was expected to decline in 2022. KSPS reported that the Salassae community saw a decline in income from agriculture due to changes in the dry-rainy season pattern. Many fruits, including langsung, durian and rambutan, had lower yields than in average. Also, agricultural products like cocoa, pepper, and cloves—which have historically been the cornerstone of the neighbourhood’s economy—have seen a reduction in harvests. Adaptation measures are necessary for overcoming this trend.
61. In Cambodia, the partners reported unfavourable weather leading to volatile rice production and market prices. Cambodia suffered from flooding and heavy rain particularly in September 2022, affecting the agricultural production. FNN is encouraging its members to transition into more resilient production methods and diversify into more climate resilient crops, which can thrive also during heavy rains and storms.
62. In Vietnam, climate change related hazards are becoming more serious, causing damage to agricultural production. Thousands of agricultural and forestry cooperatives and small agricultural and forestry households are damaged by rain, flood, wind, storm, or drought. The State of Vietnam has issued many policies to support cooperatives, agriculture, forestry sector development and climate change preparedness, and some of these laws are to be amended by the National Assembly of Vietnam in 2023. VCA has continued advocating cooperatives and smallholders interest in evolving policy framework.

3.2 EXECUTION PER COMPONENT

3.2.1 COMPONENT 1: DELIVERY OF ECONOMIC SERVICES ALONG PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS

63. The provision of Economic Services is in the focus of component 1. To be supported are „services that enable smallholders to foster partnerships with larger market actors, access and mobilize financing from the private [or public sector], increase productivity, reduce risk, manage their produce, create employment, and increase incomes“ (Grant Agreement, p.4).
64. The following list summarizes the activities under component 1 of the programme in each of the projects.



Picture: 19 - Youth capacity building on organic farming techniques. CANOFECO (2022)

65. **8701 / VCA – QNCA, CCCSC, PYCA, NACA / FFD / Vietnam:**

Under component 1, most of the planned activities could be implemented.

Smallholders were supported in their pursuit of forest certification. With CCCSC, 231 households with 890 hectares in 9 cooperatives were updated and will be certified through the project (one more coop in 2023). FFD and QNCA have decided to pursue a FSC certification over PEFC due to the current demand situation and market preference of FSC products. Certification-related activities will continue in 2023.

The Hoa My cooperative in TTHCA was successfully diversified in 2022 with beekeeping and tree nursery activities. Hoa My was supported in planting 6000 indigenous *Melaleuca* seedlings, and production of more than 8000 saplings.

NACA was supported in establishing an acacia nursery and conducted trainings accordingly. The Minh Tanh cooperative sold 350 000 acacia seedlings and Than Thuy 400 000 seedlings providing 200 households in 2022. Parent trees were replaced. The Hanh Dung tree nursery continues to provide 120 households annually and is currently being upgraded after storms. The Binh Khuong cooperative established a 600m² nursery, planting 6000 parent trees which means the first seedlings will be produced in 2023.

Training courses on silvicultural practices and linkages in production chains were conducted by NACA with the Thanh Thuy and Minh Thanh cooperatives.

Some minor equipment was acquired for the Binh Khuong cooperative by QNCA (1 phone, 1 laptop, 1 printer, 2 saws and 1 sprayer). Plans are to install solar power in 2023 for which programme funds will be utilized.

Links were established with wood processing companies. QNCA has visited and discussed with Van Ly wood processing company (Duc Pho town), Khanh Duy forest products company

(Ba To district), Forest Products Export Joint Stock Company of Quang Ngai Province (Dung Quat industry zone), Phu My woodchip factory (Binh Son district), and Nguyen Phong Wood processing company (Quang Tri province). The dialogues influenced initial plans on timber certification as it became clear that there is only demand for FSC (not PEFC) certified timber.

A survey template for a baseline study on climate risks was created and the survey conducted with eight (8) cooperatives. The baseline report was submitted to CCCSC for the final evaluation.

A peer exchange took place between the Finnish partner Savotta and the Vietnamese partners. Mr. Rauno visited ICED (VCA), VFCO in Ha Noi, NACA and 2 cooperatives in NACA, BMFV in Nghe An province, CCCSC and faculty of Forestry, TTH FOSDA, Dr Dung (director of CORENARM) in Hue city, QNCA and 4 cooperatives in QNCA, Van Ly wood processing company, Xuan Loc (group certification) in Quang Ngai province.

66. **8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:**

Ten (10) agricultural cooperatives were assessed and selected in 2022 to support their youth groups on four technical areas: chicken farming, vegetables growing, the marketing of products and business planning. Afdi estimates productivity increases of 50% for chicken and vegetable. Despite the technical success of the training trajectory, it remains difficult to motivate young people to remain on the countryside and engaged in the agricultural sector. Of 120 planned participants, only 49 (25W) participated in the trajectory. Part of the trajectory is the support by FAEC staff for individual business planning, monthly meetings with trainers and FAEC staff since August and continuous exchange through Telegram groups. Forty (40) young farmers participated in farmer-to-farmer exchange visits aiming at the experience sharing on vegetable production, market linkages and opportunities for cooperation. Two (2) young farmers and the FAEC's director participated in a ten-day mission to France to study assets and constraints of French approaches to poultry, vegetable, and mushroom production.

67. **8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:**

Several studies were conducted to assess and improve the FOs service delivery:

- a. Six (6) FO enterprises were profiled and feasibility studies for the business plans of five (5) FOs were conducted. In addition, enterprise assessment using Octagon tool was conducted with ten (10) FOs.
- b. A study with 608 respondents (334 M, 274 W) was completed to collect evidence for the youth development plan.

Some necessary equipment (scales, containers and packing stations) was procured to improve the service delivery of FOs to its members and production facilities sanitary standards were improved.

The certification of farming areas is progressing well, about 150 farmers are now documented to enter the certification scheme.

Key activities towards a professionalization of FOs in 2022 included efforts on standards and procedures:

- c. Standard operational procedures (SOPs) were reviewed and put in place for each product. Internal inspectors, approval committees, technicians and food processing workers were involved (75 participants, 58m/17f).
 - d. Four (4) FOs underwent training for Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for improved food processing.
 - e. Seminars were held for internal control systems personnel. Standards were reviewed and some farmers decided to retreat from certification to appeal to potential buyers in China and Japan.
 - f. Handbooks on internal quality controls were reviewed and updated.
 - g. Two (2) FOs started pursuing FDA licenses and product registrations.
68. Technical trainings were also part of the activities in 2022. Conducted were trainings on cacao-related practices, technologies and enterprising. A local marketing structure was established among 81 producers (56% women) who will cluster their produce to ensure a steady supply. The approach aims at international buyers. Potential buyers (China-Japan) visited the farmers as they are in search for cacao suppliers.

69. **8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:**

Almost all planned activities were conducted under C1. To enhance the FOs service delivery, the following activities were conducted in 2022:

- a. Business development workshops, coaching and mentoring applying the Trias' business performance review (BPR) kit.
- b. The development of two pineapple juice products. This included:
 - i. Analyses of the product and packaging options
 - ii. Coordination and cooperation with authorities, departments, and private companies on approval and safety (FDA approval, Department of Trade, Department of Science and Technology)
 - iii. Capacity building for farmers to improve the product quality and income generation (12% increase), trainings on food safety for processing staff.
 - iv. Trial runs
 - v. Negotiation with buyers and potential investors (GlowCorp as national distributor)
- c. Learning exchanges took place in pineapple decortication and on circular solutions such as the processing of fibre waste into animal feed.
- d. Capacity building sessions with pineapple farmers on technical issues and access to finance. The farmers were strongly affected by the pandemic and in need to improve their financial situations. Technical trainings are complemented with capacity building of Village Saving and Loan Associations in which farmers can provide and access financial services. A total of six (6) new groups with 240 farmers were organized. Almost EUR 70,000 in loans were released to 196 members.

- e. Training of Trainers on Disaster Risk Reduction was conducted using the AgriCord Building Resilience Training Module (4 trainers). Orientations on Disaster Risk Reduction Management – Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA) were implemented with 31 persons and ten (10) more were trained on LEISA (Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture) methods.

70. **8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:**

All planned activities under component 1 were implemented in 2022.

To improve the service delivery, staff, leaders, and members of the FOs underwent technical training on organic rice marketing throughout the season. 123 persons received orientations and 32 decided to fully adapt them on 14.7 hectares.

In Camarines Norte, a total of 6.4 tons of organic rice were consolidated by the federation. The increase in volume is attributed to improved yield (timing of planting) and the strong partnership of the federation with different government agencies such as LGU, PLGU, DA, and ATI. In addition, CANOFECO continues to promote organic agriculture buy conducting organic farming training to several towns in Camarines Norte. CANOFECO was able to develop group of farmers who are now producing organic fertilizer to be sold to other organic practitioners.

The entrepreneurial competences of farmers were strengthened in partnership with Synergy Pilipinas. Conducted was a five-day training on Enabling Rural Innovation (ERI) and Competency-based Economies through Formation of Entrepreneurs (CEFE) for Agripreneurs. The training aims to capacitate farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs (SSE) on entrepreneurship development and help them generate business ideas and develop a simple business plan using the ERI-CEFE approach. The activity was participated by a total of 35 participants (22 women, 13 men, 3 youth) 27 farmers, and 8 Agri-Technicians from 18 farmer associations, agri-coop members of CANOFECO including Labo Progressive Multi-Purpose Cooperative (LPMPC) and Talisayon Muti-Purpose Cooperative (TAMUCO), and Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAG)-Camarines Norte. Trainings on AgriCord DRR-CCA 5 Steps to Resiliency for farmers was conducted to 2 batches participated by 60 farmers (34 women, 16 youth).

Advisory missions by CANOFECO focused on helping farmers to implement the organic rice farming technologies. Organic seeds and fertilizers were provided to farmer during the missions (29 farmers reached, 15 women; 264 sacks of fertilizers and 631 kilos of organic seeds (black rice)). In addition to technical support, CANOFECO continued to organized village savings and loan associations to assist farmers and their families to access working capital needs. A total of 19 VSLAs are currently organized with a total membership of 916 people (578 women, 161 youth). The mobilized resources reached PHP 3,726,814.00 (Euro 66,550.25) with loan releases amounting to PHP 3,006,250.00 (Euro 53,683.14) and a generated interest earned of PHP 403,971.50 (Euro 7,213.78).

Exchange visits on successful organic rice production technology to PDC were attended by 14 rice farmers including 5 women and 2 youth. This initiative familiarizes, educates, and inspires farmers to adopt the rice production techniques of PDC who have become one of the

top certified organic rice producers in the country. Half of the participants were convinced to grow organic rice and three (3) are becoming seed producers.

Trias conducted strategy mapping exercises to develop CANOFECO's business and organizational development strategy. The organic rice business plan of CANOFECO was reviewed. Aside from the programme management support (planning, evaluation), CANOFECO was also provided technical advises on market access by linking them to LAZADA and to Glow Corporation. Capacity buildings of trainers of trainers on climate change risk management were conducted (5 participants) using AgriCord's Building Resilience Toolkit. Climate Change adaptation and disaster risk management will be included in the livelihood plan of the farmers.

Not foreseen in the annual workplan but highly important was the development of an internal control system for the participatory guarantee systems certification for organic rice products. At the end of the 2022, the Manual of Operation and Internal Standards was completed and ready for evaluation by the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards in 2023. The participatory guarantee system will improve incomes through better pricing and market access for rice products of farmers. The development of farm maps and profiles were two important requirements in PGS certification

71. **8708 / FNN / AsiaDHRRA / Cambodia:**

The project is building on the results achieved on consolidation of produce from members during the FFP ASEAN – a FO support program preceding FO4A. The current project is focusing on running a sales outlet – AgriCoop shop – for its members produce in Phnom Penh, in the FNN building. According to the selling records at member cooperative level, in 2022 there were 3,199 members including 2,093 women and 254 youth who benefited from their cooperatives' economic services. Some of the members are supplying their products to FNN AgriCoop Shop through their cooperative:

- 147 household supplied vegetables.
- 20 household supplied chicken.
- 138 household supplied paddy rice to their cooperative for processing milled rice to supply the FNN AgriCoop Shop.

In total, 15 cooperatives in 8 provinces across Cambodia 2384 kg of vegetables, 515.69 kg of meat, 2,144 kg of milled rice, 409.35 kg of processed products (palm sugar, cashew-nut, sugar-tamarind, tomato, and banana crispy chip), 448 kg of fruits, and 4,258 duck and chicken eggs to FNN AgriCoop Shop.

In 2022, the FNN AgriCoop Shop earned total revenue at 16,993.47 USD while, of which 14,153.32 USD was used to purchase the produce. Thus, the gross profit of FNN AgriCoop Shop in 2022 is 2,840.15 USD - at this moment still excluding staff salary, which at this start-up phase is still covered by FO4A grant. The project has also supported the purchasing of some equipment – such as cool storage and scales – for the shop. The staff has developed online marketing. Currently the Shops Telegram channel has 126 subscribers and 946 posts and Facebook page 1,599 likers and 1,678 followers and 281 posts. Additionally, FNN has published 500 leaflets of AgriCoop Shop for promoting the shop in the neighbourhood. The

shop is in the main shopping street of a new neighbourhood with lot of appartement blocks and office spaces, so there is potential to grow customer base.

The shop manager has reached out to 5 market outlets in the city. Out of those 5, only one – Jomkar market – was interested in buying vegetables (approx. 200kg/week) from FNN/its member cooperatives. Other markets either had already a sufficient supplier base or presented too high-quality requirements (GAP certificate or organic produce certificates). FNN and some of its members participated in the Agricultural Cooperative Business Forum held on the 6th-7th September 2022. During the Forum, the AgriCoop Shop and its products were exhibited and initial contacts with potential buyers were established. In addition, the project also co-organized the Responsible Agricultural Investment in Rice Sector Workshop.

72. **8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:**

Most planned activities were conducted under component 1 for this project.

Two assessments were conducted over the year.

- a. PAKISAMA assessed the existing business enterprises of the FOs on their viability and profitability. Their own assessment tool was utilized.
- b. Further, the competence of the staff and local consultants for the provision of sound services was assessed. A competency assessment framework was utilized.

Cooperative Capacity Strengthening Intervention Plans were successfully implemented between April and July and between August and December with the nine (9) FOs. Farm production and business development services were intensified in a more innovative and appropriate manner using the hybrid approach both online and face-to face. A planning template was developed, orientations organized, and initial planning sessions attended by the management staff and board of directors.

Online marketing was intensified in 2022 with five (5) FOs starting to sell products through Facebook and two (2) FOs participated in trade fairs to engage potential long-term buyers and partners. The marketing efforts will be monitored by PAKISAMA and coordinated with AgriCOOPh.

Integrated Diversified Organic Farming Systems (IDOFS) are in the process of being established in five (5) FOs including the production of bio-organic fertilizers. One FO already established seven (7) farms under such systems. Manuals were produced and are available in Tagalog (later in English) for the distribution to technicians.

The collection of production data and details of the different FOs was improved through the design of a standardized template. Product details are listed, and potential buyers can inform themselves about the products. Flyers are produced and updates regularly posted on the PAKISAMA website.

Capacity building and support mission were conducted by CSA in March, August, and November. The organizational audit was reviewed in cooperation with AFA and AsiaDHRRRA. The results were presented to the National Council leaders.

Committees on Sustainable Agriculture were activated in eight (8) FOs who will further conduct planning sessions in cooperation with the cooperative managers. Business Planning workshops were conducted with four (4) FOs. And efforts were made to re-integrate trained farmers and technicians into the extension support network.

73. **8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:**

AgriCOOPh was strengthening the businesses and economic service provision of 9 cooperatives, directly reaching 3059 farmers (14% of the total membership of the 9 coops) with the project activities. The cooperatives were profiled using the Basic Profiling and RAMT tool (Rapid Appraisal Monitoring Tool). Coop assessment and scoping covers various components: General Information, Membership, Services, Governance, Human Resource, finance and Accounting, Knowledge Management and Communication, Business Case and Conclusion and Recommendation. It was observed that large cooperatives' main business is microfinance. However, they had difficulty in filling-up the Membership component assessment as they are not familiar with the member's profile, the sectoral categories of members such as farmers, fishers, traders, and youth. During the assessment process, the cooperatives realized their limited reach to their members and wanted to use the project also to improve their knowledge about the situation and needs of their members.

The AgriCOOPh CSA FO4A Team reviewed a Business Planning of Farmers Food mart / Store. See link [COOPMART STUDY](#) It was decided to pilot the coop-to-coop marketing concept in Guadalupe Community MPC and evaluate the results after 6 months or so of piloting the coop-to-coop display of products.

The main achievement for 2022 related to supporting economic-oriented activities. The market intermediation roles played by the CSA AgriCOOPh team in assisting the cooperatives in the flow of goods from their farmer members to markets such as the institutional purchases of DSWD and the local government units as well as through coop-to-coop transactions gave good results. With just the DSWD Region 7 marketing agreement AgriCOOPh was able to access P189,000,000 worth of goods delivered to the respective feeding program venues of the DSWD. There were also other small marketing deliveries like that of Hamtic MPC worth P2,000,000 worth of dairy products purchased by Department of Education; and to some local government units that AgriCOOPh has not documented.

Five of the member-cooperatives of AgriCOOPh were the major suppliers of the agricultural commodities for DSWD but all in all 7 cooperatives participated namely - Sto. Nino MPC, LAMAC MPC, Carmen Samahang Nayon MPC, FCCT, LAMPUFACO, Guadalupe MPC, and Oro Integrated MPC in the Visayas and Mindanao. The success of the operation rested on the following aspects: hauling trucks shared capital infusion by one cooperative, establishment of initial warehouse, loans from different cooperatives to pay cooperatives initially for the supplies and other operational expenses of AgriCOOPh, participating in the bidding, use of PhilGEPS, hiring of the operational manpower, sharing of some income to those who participated. Results from 2022 prove that marketing with the government agencies is possible and can be done when cooperatives join seriously and with commitment.

74. **8721 / COMFAS / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

The COVID 19 crisis was a huge test to COMFAS's resilience as the sudden total collapse of tourism and severe lockdown measures meant that COMFAS's business model focusing on high value grouper supplied to the big cities, hotels and restaurants became redundant overnight. With the FO4A grant support, COMFAS's rose to the challenge and showed agility, creativity, and resiliency by shifting its production for local markets. The original idea was to start the production of high demand tilapia and milkfish. These plans had to be revised as the changing water conditions caused tilapia and milkfish production to remain below the expectations. Now the project focuses on seaweed and oyster production and with the oyster production, also oyster sauce processing will be started. Since 2021, seaweed production increased by 114 tons and oyster production increased by 50 tons.

In 2022, several topical workshops were conducted:

- a. On market access: including the development of seaweeds collective marketing and oyster processing, the expansion of seaweeds and oyster farming the strengthening of the monitoring and evaluation system at the federation level, improving federation management capabilities, and establishing a system that could provide a leveraging programme for member associations.
- b. On business planning: A business plan will be developed for oyster and seaweed business ventures. The business Plan for seaweeds will be developed by AsiaDHRRA in collaboration with TRIAS, and the oyster sauce business plan will be developed by GTZ. These business plans are calculated to be finished by April 2023. In the first quarter of 2023, a series of workshops by the federation leaders (with project staff) will be conducted to develop the monitoring system, installation of the business structure and systems, and develop management system to coordinate businesses at the federation level with the primary organizations. AsiaDHRRA and TRIAS will do a collaborative effort to pursue capacity building program focusing on business management, monitoring and evaluation and financial management.

75. **8722 / AGFU / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:**

AGFU conducted a market survey and visited Tuyet Phung coconut and coconut candy processing company in Ben Tre province to learn from their experience in the processing and marketing. The visit provided an opportunity to introduce palm sugar products in the province. To boost the production and to help producer households and cooperative management board to better plan and budget for their activities, 2 workshops on developing farm level business plans was organised for 40 participants – members of the cooperative group in An Phu commune in Tinh Bien district. The trainers were staff of the Cooperative Alliance and the Provincial Rural Development sub-department. Further training and coaching is needed to complete the farm production plans as the basic educational level of the producers from the ethnic minority group is low. To boost the marketing of palm sugar juice, AGFU designed a sample of product packaging for Thot Not juice bottles and provided 1,000 bottle samples to various shops. AGFU participated also in 2 fairs in Ho Chi Minh City and An Giang to promote their palm sugar products.

The products are getting well known and the selling price of palm sugar has been gradually raising. Palm sugar is sold at the market at the price of 25,000 VND/kg - 30,000 VND/kg (if using chemical for keeping juice) and sold at the price of 35,000 - 40,000 VND/kg (if it's using natural one) and sold to Palmania Company in Tri Ton district. At the motorway rest shops, palm sugar is sold to tourists with prices ranging from 35,000 - 40,000 VND/kg. In off-season the selling price can climb to 50,000 - 60,000 VND/kg. Palm sugar has then a strong potential to provide much needed additional income for the marginalized ethnic minority households.

AGFU provided 27 sugar machines for member of its cooperatives. Having an electric sugar stirring machine will reduce the need for labour and improve food hygiene and safety of the product.

The Cooperative Group in Tan Loi – Tinh Bien commune and Thu Thuy stop in Luong Phi – Tri Ton commune received 2 sugar cookers and 2 freezers. This equipment preserves palm sugar juice fresh to be sold at motorway stops. The farmers will also make use of fruit peels to cook sugar.

76. **8724 / PTBC / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:**

Not available

77. **8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

In 2022, 630 M / 322W / 284Y / 953T farmers benefitted from the project. The focus of the economic service improvement was marketing. Ngudi Mulyo's marketing team was trained in content creation and using ads on social media to optimize online sales. GALIH's efforts focused on establishing a marketing team in each sub district for increasing the sales of fermented coca beans. Work was also done to increase the sales through Margaria shop in Yogyakarta and the Semarang Ayu souvenir centre. In November, a visit was organised to Wondis chocolate producer in Kulonprogo to start a collaboration in marketing of cocoa beans and products.

78. **8726 / KSPS / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

KSPS and Salassae Village Government started to prepare for business cooperation between KSPS and Salassae Village-Owned Enterprises (BUM Desa). KSPS updated its business plan to fit the changing context and adapted the marketing plan accordingly. To boost the functioning of the MFI, KSPS carried an analysis of capital requirements to assist members and KSPS in conducting joint production and business. A training workshop on this topic was attended by a total of 25 participants: 9 men (adult), 11 women (adult), and 5 youth.

79. **8727 / API / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

API is working with two (2) of its members, SDR and MAMA to organize commodity clusters. A market analysis for coffee and cocoa in Polewali Mandar is being carried out. Based on the analysis, a five-year business plan is being developed. One business development facilitator has been established at the central level to support and supervise business assistants in the field with a task to assist, identify, business opportunities for cooperative members. Modules and guides for the development of agricultural entrepreneurship for FO, as well as modules for cooperative financial system training and use of Sustainable Agri-Cooperative Operations

Assessment Tool has been prepared. A potential for coffee and cocoa production has been mapped and analysed in Malang and Polewala Mandar District

80. **8728 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

The operation of ISLACO, particularly its credit program, was severely affected by the pandemic. Repayment rates began to decline. The operations improved towards the third quarter of 2021; but repayment declined again significantly through 2022. Aside from the slowdown in the economic activities brought about by pandemic, agricultural sector was affected by the decline in agricultural production in rice (due to the rice tariffication) and animal products. Importation of food commodities increased creating pressure for local production. Production was also affected by the significant increase in the price of oil, and by the high inflation rate experienced by the whole country. Farmer members of ISLACO, in dire need of cash, did not prioritize paying of loan, and started to withdraw their capital share. As consequence, the credit operation of ISLACO is in crisis.

The new business of ISLACO, the sale of dried fish, cacao and pinyato (a new product introduced by the department of Trade (DTI), continue its operations. Product quality is improving due to the new facilities and DTI also provides some training. Despite these improvements, the sales figures remain disappointingly low. ISLACO's priority needs now are cash injection on credit investment to save the credit facility, new strategies for credit provision and collection, aggressive market expansion, prioritizing the existing business ventures to strengthen focus and improving governance.

Through the funding support of FO4A, a small working area for product processing and storage room was constructed. This working area was one of the requirements of DTI for the final release of the facilities granted to ISLACO. The working area facilitated the production and processing - especially the "dried fish" and the "pinyato". Participation in seven Provincial and Regional Trade Fair of the Department of Trade of the Government resulted in some additional sales and walk in orders. Grameen Foundation supported ISLACO in reviewing the Business Plan on "Dried Fish and Cacao" and to help prepare a business plan for "Pinyato". The business plan of Cacao and Dried Fish production was completed with assistance from AsiaDHRRA. Grameen Foundation also aided with improving the cacao processing to create additional products aside from "Tablea". Training on Rice Processing, training on Cacao Fermentation Process, and Local Technology Mission on Cacao Fermentation Facility and Processing Centre with Cacao Farmers Association was conducted.

81. **8729 / MARCCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

MARCCO is improving its calamansi processing plant's capacity further by upgrading the electrical wiring and transformer with the project grant support. Also, a more powerful generator set has been installed under the supervision of the Oriental Mindoro Cooperative district engineer. These upgrades will ensure the safety of operations as well as increase the volume of production both for the concentrate and RTD juices and calamansi extract as new product to offer.

The partnership with Land Bank of the Philippines is growing strong and MARCCO's application for renewed credit loan package increased from PHP 5 million to 8 million. This loan from Landbank provide MARCCO with additional capital to expand the processing

operation and to improve the micro credit program for members so that they could continue to diversify their farm activities outside the calamansi production.

MARCCO continues successfully to expand its client base and manages to get long term supply contracts. The market of MARCCO's citrus products has penetrated in Batangas City Calapan City and Marinduque markets. During the market mapping at Batangas City (April 10-13), three (3) market outlets in Batangas City (Batangas State University, Kapeng Barako Shop and Oning's Store) were established. In Marinduque, a purchase order of 10 boxes/month with JONALYN E. LAGAR, J&E Sari-sari Store at Brgy. was signed. For Global Organic and Wellness Corporation supply of calamansi and dalandan concentrate for Pure Gold outlets continued and purchase order of 50 boxes to start delivery by July to August 2022 was signed. MARCCO supplied 42 tons of dalandan fresh fruit in 4 deliveries from February-March 2022 Mapagmahal Foods Company. Product promotion events were organised in MMG Hospital (Medical Mission Group) in April, leading to a purchase order of calamansi concentrate and RTD juices. In addition, 4 other "pasalubong" market outlets were established in Merl's, Mikko's, Jamilla Hotel and Restaurant, and SASMA in Tagaytay City, Parish. Other current market outlets include PTIEDO, DTI, DA, Vencious Hotel and Dulces' Kitchen Restaurant and numbers of individual distributors in Local and Manila. MARCCO participated also in a Trade Fair, which resulted on some immediate sales.

MARCCO had a 6 -year usufruct agreement with the Department of Trade and Industry to utilize and manage a water refilling station. As MARCCO achieved the target sales stipulated in the agreement, the facility was turned over to MARCCO after 5 years of contract coming to the effect.

A new partnership was established with the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the Korean Invention Promotion Association. KIPO-KIPA, jointly with Dep. Trade and Industry awarded a new calamansi extractor.

The construction of a cottage on the demonstration farm of MARCCO was completed and it is now ready to accommodate guests and visitors for learning exchanges. There are also plans to start an agro-eco-tourism on the site to showcase best practices in terms of citrus and fruit production.

MARCCO received PHP 450,000.00 worth of processing equipment from DAR and training for product quality and product development, particularly related to extending Ready to Drink products shelf life.

82. **8730 / AgriCOOPh & SOEMCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

AgriCOOPh is implementing the project with its member, the Socorro Empowered Peoples Cooperative (SOEMCO), in the island municipality of Socorro in the province of Surigao del Norte, in Mindanao Philippines. The project focuses on swine production, feed material production (corn, soybeans), feed milling, breeding, and marketing. This project is built on Socorro island's comparative advantage of being secured from the contagion of the African Swine Fever (ASF), currently affecting pork meat production in the entire country leading to the increased importation of pork meat. The start-up activities have proceeded, despite Typhoon Odette effects, which stalled the project implementation for a while. SOEMCO has restocked new gilts, constructed farm structures for pig breeding and fattening and organised production clusters (204 farmers), established a small-scale feed mill, organised corn and soybeans production for feeds of clusters.

Some seed investments were done with FO4A grant but AgriCOOPh advice on the mobilization of SOEMCO's internal financial resources and lobby and advocacy generated financial support from the government. AgriCOOPh is currently negotiating with the Philippine Rural Development Program (PRDP) for support for a 1,000 sow breeder farm of SOEMCO and with Land Bank for the establishment of a bigger feed mill plant. A 10 million fund release was given to SOEMCO as part of the inspire project of the Department of Agriculture. This fund release was for 30 sow level multiplier farms.

83. **8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:**

Direct technical interventions through AgriCOOPh internal technical experts and service provider were provided to three (3) cooperatives – SOEMCO (Socorro Empowered Peoples Cooperative), SPC (Silverbay Producers Cooperative) and PUBAC (Puting Bato Multi-Purpose Cooperative). For PUBAC, technical support was centred on its coconut enterprise aside from its existing consumer store services. Under this activity, consumer and marketing business management training for staff and management of PUBAC was conducted by AgriCOOPh. Technical support in project planning was extended also to SPC for their expanded milkfish production and processing and marketing business.

Support by the Trias officers on Organizational Strengthening to the AGRICOOPH-TRIAS team and the coop officers focused on the feed mill and floating fish cage operations of SOEMCO, processed bangus production of SPC and the coconut and consumer store enterprises for PUBAC. A Trias finance officer provided coaching on financial management of the programme.

There were inter-cooperative exchanges undertaken with target cooperatives to learn and to be coached. PUBAC's consumer store enterprise management team exchanged on techniques and best practices from other cooperatives and received technical coaching on consumer store management.

This exchange is aligned to *Big Sister-Small Sister* approach where the smaller cooperative PUBAC received support from the bigger cooperative Guadalupe Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative in Cebu City. A first exchange between PUBAC (3 female staff and leaders) and GCMPC were about consumer store operations. The second visit from GCMPC (3 female coaches) to PUBAC was to mentor and to inspire the leaders of PUBAC on consumer and marketing services for members. The visit motivated PUBAC to organize a peer-to-peer learning exchange between them and MIEDECO of Davao City in 2023 on coconut white copra production technology. SOEMCO and SPC learned from COMFAS on mari-aquaculture particularly on milkfish fish cages technology. As a result, both FOs improved their strategy for more ecologically sustainable fish enterprises.

84. **8762 / KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:**

Activities under C1, aiming to improve the FO service delivery, started during the second semester of the year.

Activities specifically targeting service delivery in the cassava value chain included:

- Technical workshops on the collective cassava business
- Trainings on the production of modified cassava flour (MOCAF)
- Research and development of MOCAF-based food products

In the rice value chain, activities included:

- Training-of-trainers on rice seed production
- Workshops on collective business mechanisms

Activities across value chains included:

- The updating of production standards for cassava, MOCAF, rice and rice seeds, and
- Workshops on business planning

3.2.2 COMPONENT 2: ENABLING THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

85. The creation of enabling and conducive business environments is covered under component 2 of the programme. Hereunder fall activities and advisory services that build the FO's "capacity to lobby for a more business-enabling environment, from national to international levels –this includes both the policy and regulatory environment for agriculture and business, and the relations with other actors and commercial partners in the value chains" (Grant Agreement, p.5).



Picture: 20 - FO representatives with AgriCOOPh CEO Cresente Paez at the Food Procurement Forum. Julian Arriola (2022)

86. The following list summarizes the actions taken under component 2 in each project:
87. **8701 / VCA – QNCA, CCCSC, PYCA, NACA / FFD / Vietnam:**

All planned activities under component 2 were implemented.

The CCCSC conducted a comparative survey between PEFC and FSC certification from the smallholder perspective to understand which certification scheme might be better for the individual farmers. The report is available in Vietnamese and English.

A national workshop, organized by VCA and its provincial members, attracted 125 participants in Hanoi. The event focused on experience, mechanisms, and policy solutions in forestry development and sustainable poverty reduction. Another 30 participants joined the policy dialogue online.

In August, VCA and NACA organized a two-day roundtable on "Cooperatives and small forestry households diversify forestry products to sustainably reduce poverty in rural areas in response to climate change" in the Nghe An province. The workshop had about 40 participants from ICED (VCA), cooperative alliances, and cooperatives in the central region.

In 2022, the project worked on the L&A capacities of the FOs by enabling five (5) staff members of five (5) FOs to undergo a ToT course in Hanoi organized by AgriCord, FAO and FFD. One photo reportage was conducted on the current situation of cooperatives and smallholders in the forest value chain.

VCA enabled ten (10) officers of five (5) Provincial Cooperative Alliances and cooperatives to attend the International Workshop on Sustainable Forest Development to Respond to

Climate Change in Hanoi. The international workshop in Hanoi was jointly organized by FFF, FAO, FFD, AgriCord, NVFU and took place over five (5) days in September 2022. Research and survey were conducted in the Bac Can and Yen Bai provinces.

Material was produced to promote resilient smallholder forestry in Vietnam through practical advice. VCA's guidebook supports the adaptation and diversification in forestry, forest management and offers silvicultural guidelines. About 300 copies are in circulation. The guide consists of three parts: 1) Techniques, 2) Diversification, and 3) climate change adaptation.

FFD advised the partners in preparation and organization of the roundtable and workshop events in 2022, as well as the production of communicational and educational materials.

88. **8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:**

Agricultural cooperatives in Cambodia struggle to integrate young people into their activities, not only in production but also in terms of advocacy. FAEC and Afdi tapped into the newly formed youth groups to update their strategy for youth and design an action plan for advocacy activities on the generational renewal in agriculture and cooperatives. Representatives of the ten (10) young farmer groups were key agents in the development of the action plan. Over the year, they received technical and leadership trainings to assume leading positions in and around youth advocacy.

Plans for the co-organization of a forum with other FOs had to be postponed for 2023 due to institutional difficulties. FAEC did overcome these challenges during the year.

In 2022, FAEC representatives and staff actively participated in three (3) forums on issues of youth inclusion, climate change, agroecology, and national policies.

89. **8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:**

Farmcoop engaged with other significant stakeholders to develop the implementation rules and regulations (IRR) on the Davao Ordinance declaring Barangay Sibulan an organic agricultural zone. Special attention was paid to the concerns of conventional farmers who would be affected by this ordinance. The formation of a representative technical working group, including FOs, CSOs and administration, was a milestone for an inclusive drafting process. Round table discussions on issues of air and water pollution were attended by Davao city councillor Abella, extending the concerns of agricultural actors to the city council. The distribution of IEC materials and implementation of an advocacy plan will follow once the technical working group has concluded the drafting process. Youth and women leaders of the cooperatives received coaching and mentoring on lobby and advocacy. The youth baseline survey and development plan were part of this process.

Technical and financial support was provided to the development of a COVID-19 recovery and innovation programme under the *Catalysing Recovery of Special and Community Enterprises for Transformation* (CRESENT) initiative of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship for Asia (ISEA).

We Effect also provided technical and financial support to the holding of the 2022 *Knowledge Learning Market and Policy Engagement* (KLMPE) Conference to contribute to the enabling environment for the farmers. Through the years, the KLMPE has served a platform for government agencies, civil society organizations, academia, research institutions and international development partners to discuss and facilitate knowledge exchange on best

practices in agriculture and rural development and policy that would create an enabling environment for the empowerment of family farmers. We Effect and other AgriCord agencies in the Philippines are members of the Agricultural and Rural Development Knowledge and Policy Platform (ARDKPP) - a multi-sectoral group composed of NGOs (global and national), government agencies involved in rural development, and farmers and fishers' organizations which has been organizing the KLMPE.

90. **8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:**

To enable the environment for pineapple producers, members of LPMPC represented the sector in the development planning advisory of the local government unit and the department for agriculture.

The engagements resulted in the following achievements.

- a. The budget allocation and establishment of the Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer. This can be attributed to the influence of LPMPC and other cooperative member of the council in different policy making body.
- b. An allocation of a budget from Camarines Norte Province through the established provincial cooperative development office was obtained. The money is intended to provide loan assistance to small and medium agriculture and credit cooperative.
- c. Lobbying in the Regional Agri-Fisheries Council resulted in approval and release of support like vegetable seeds, pineapple suckers, 10 power sprayers, 2 units Shallow Tube Well Pumps, 1 unit PISOS Pump and 1,000 bags of Organic Fertilizers to selected farmers in the Region.
- d. LPMPC renewed its accreditation as CSO in the provincial government of Camarines Norte to sustain participation in the different bodies under the new set of local officials.

LPMPC members participated in several forums and platforms throughout 2022 e.g., the national KLMPE conference which provided a chance to network, exchange on best practices and lobby. LPMPC further joined the national pineapple conference in 2022. A pineapple business forum was conducted with 184 participants from academia, government, administration, and farmers.

Significant synergies exist with academia, local government units and NGOs through coordination meetings, through scholarship opportunities, and capacity building activities (e.g. AgriTerra, SOLAR training by Institute of climate change and sustainable cities).

91. **8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:**

Plans under C2 were slightly adapted as CANOFECO shifted priorities from capacity buildings for lobby and advocacy to the mobilization of farmers for organic rice production.

The challenges to the adaptation of organic rice farming practices learnt in the season-long training trajectories were assessed and evaluated to improve the adaptation in the future.

Further, an organic agriculture business forum in Camarines Norte was organized. Fifty-seven (57) participants exchanged on challenges and opportunities to the sector for primary

cooperatives and individuals. The forum resulted in some resolutions addressing the provincial authorities and Philippine Landbank.

The lessons learnt during the assessment and exchanges will be processed into information and education materials in 2023.

Two (2) coordination meetings were conducted to determine how CANOFECO can improve to help farmers in adopting organic rice farming practices. Issues identified are the lack of financial resources, a lack of production inputs (such as organic seeds, organic fertilizer, and organic pesticide), and a lacking market for the product.

One member of CANOFECO attended the National Forum on Food Procurement through Trias' partner AgriCOOPh. Trias will continue to link these partners.

In 2022, CANOFECO submitted a project proposal (Organik Konek) to the Department of Agriculture resulting in a PHP 5 Mio grant and participated (2 persons) in workshops focusing on the access to information.

92. **8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:**

Under component 2, PAKISAMA and CSA conducted all planned activities.

Priorities in 2022 were:

- The surveying the priority issues and concerns of the nine (9) FOs. Workshops and online consultations, as well as guided survey tools were employed to identify top concerns. An environmental mapping was conducted in combination.
- The creation of policy papers and policy infographics. Three (3) policy papers were updated.
 - Enabling Environment for Rice Farmers
 - Enabling Environment for Filipino Fisherfolks
 - Empowering the Rural Young Farmers
- Tracking of relevant policies for lobby and advocacy actions (such as the Extension of CARP, National Land Use Act, Magna Carta of Young Farmers, Family Farmers Bill, Coconut Farmers Trust Fund Act, DOFAR Bill)
- The mobilization of additional resources. Seven (7) FOs did secure additional financial resources from different private and public sources. The FOs are successfully sharing their resource mobilization approaches with each other.
- Cooperative dialogues were conducted between eight (8) of the nine (9) FOs, consultants, and management staff. The participation also of the FOs to the Public Food Procurement Forum in Cebu organized by AgriCOOPh last November 2022 and national consultation on family farmers agro-fishery-forestry cooperatives bill organized by PAKISAMA in December 2022 intensified discussions on the recurring issues and challenges of the cooperative sector.

93. **8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:**

For working towards enabling environment, a major achievement was the organization of the Public Food Procurement Forum that brought together 59 cooperatives and 9 government agencies in November 2022. Scoping Study on Government Institutions Engaged in Public Procurement Program in Region 7 – obtain directory of public food procurement policies and drafted a business case analysis of AgriCOOPh food procurement operation and engagement with the DSWD-7 Supplementary Feeding Program including the challenges and opportunities in dealing with DSWD-7 and partner-cooperatives INSTITUTIONAL FOOD PROCUREMENT STUDY.

94. **8721 / COMFAS / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

In 2022, COMFAS participated in regional forums and consultation, most of them are invitation by various government agencies. The topics included:

- a. A Magna Carta on Family Farmers - in connection with the decade on the importance of Family Farming; providing support programs to improve the well-being of families involved in agriculture since they are main producers of food for the country.
- b. The creation of the Department of Ocean and Fisheries - This is a separate department in the government apart from the Department of Agriculture. It intends to give priority attention on fisheries since the Philippines has a large and sea and ocean territories.
- c. Policies and programmes on loss & damages because of Climate Change, particularly on Agriculture.
- d. Continuing campaign against mining operation, illegal fishing, and quarrying. COMFAS was able to halt the operation of one quarrying in the province.
- e. Community Based Eco-Tourism - COMFAS is the leading fisherfolks organization participating in the provincial planning related developing Zamboanga Sibugay as a "Community Based Eco-Tourism Region." The initiative was conceived by the provincial government in cooperation with the Mindanao Development Authority, Department of Tourism, and the various local government units. This eco-tourism plan will capitalize on the mangroves as the main tourist attraction of the province, an effort largely conducted by COMFAS members. The eco-tourism plan will showcase an educational component for coastal management and mangrove protection. This includes the preservation of international wetlands of importance, and bird watching. This initiative is expected to offer additional livelihood and business opportunities for the local population.

95. **8724 / PTBC / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:**

Not available

96. **8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

The project activities in 2022 contributed to the widening of the public recognition of Ngudi Mulyo. The cooperative is strengthening its networks among universities, local government in the province of Yogyakarta, the executive in the Department of Agriculture, Department of Industry and Commerce, as well as at the national level, particularly through the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN).

Ngudi Mulyo has successfully lobbied for additional resources and access to government programs. For example, it mobilized a grant for a production house, for which the works were completed in August 2022. Other government programs, such as grants in provision of tools, have been accessed to complement the FO₄A activities. Successful partnership building has led several technical experts to strengthen Ngudi Mulyo's capacities in natural farming, research, production, and marketing.

97. **8726 / KSPS / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

Salassae Rural Swabina Community (KSPS) and the government of Salassae Village have discussed the designation of a Natural Agricultural Edu-tourism area for the Salebu area which is located to the north of the village. In September and November, a seminar series was held to promote the concept of natural village farming as a good practice of a community led territorial approach to be scaled up in other villages through district level medium term development plans. AsiaDHRRA is supporting this advocacy by promoting the principles of Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Land, Water and Forests and responsible agricultural investment.

98. **8727 / API / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

National banks have been approached to lobby for improved access to FOs to People's Business credit lines. Follow up action for the national policies to push policy implementation at the local levels was taken. These included studying possible available programs that can be accessed by cooperative/Farmers' Organizations in the project locations, lobbying for access to subsidies from the Government for cocoa seedling and fertilizer and access to village funds in cooperation with village owned enterprises (BUM-Desa). One evidence-based position paper on cocoa production has been drafted. The FOs were supported to participate in nine national or local level forums related to coffee and cacao production.

99. **8728 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

ISLACO initiated organizing of young as a cluster within the Cooperatives. These young farmers, once registered as an association, can start engaging with the Cooperative Development Authority and other relevant authorities for their participation in livelihood programs. With assistance from AsiaDHRRA, ISLACO started to link with the regional office of the Department of Agriculture to identify and engage platforms related to dried fish and cacao production; as well as link with the Department of Social Welfare and Development for possible public purchase negotiation of Pinyato or Congee. ISLACO attended the Digital Transformation and on boarding in E-COMMERCE PLATFORM, Empowering Women and Youth Organization to engage in Responsible Agricultural Investments, Food Procurement Forum, Educational Exposure in Cebu, and Responsible Agricultural Investments Dialogue with Government.

100. 8729 / MARCCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

Focus group discussion session and validation workshop on Digital Agriculture, initiated by PhilDHRRA. The aim was to generate feedback on all relevant issues related to digital services, technologies, the community needs for such services, and constraints and opportunities for introducing, deploying, and using these innovations to meet their social, economic, and livelihood needs. Fisherfolks and farmers consolidator forum on August 23-25, 2022. The forum was conducted by the department of agriculture in partnership with KLT Com. Aside from calamansi the forum aims to consolidate a variety of commodities including fresh and dried fish, mango, cacao, yam etc. MARCCO started to supply fresh calamansi fruit to KLT processing plant located in Calapan City. Public Food Procurement Forum (October 23-25, 2022) The goal of the forum is to explore the multiple benefits that public-private-cooperative food procurement can bring to small farmers. It provided to different stakeholders the full picture of Enhance Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty Program (EPAHP) that opens a great market opportunity to rural farmers' various commodities and ensure supplies of safe and healthy food in urban areas and institutional consumers.

101. 8730 / AgriCOOPh & SOEMCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

The lobby and advocacy activities by AgriCOOPh with the Department of Agriculture to support SOEMCO in its swine production enterprise resulted in a grant of Euro 88,000 to produce corn and soybeans including the feed milling process.

102. 8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:

Few activities were planned or conducted under C2 in 2022 as the first year of implementation focused on the strengthening of FO services. However, some unplanned activities took place and achieved tangible results:

A dialogue with the LGU of Balingasag was established to present Silver Bay Producers Cooperative proposal for the establishment of operationalization of a sustainable operations of milkfish fish cages in Balingasag Mariculture Park.

Solutions to current environmental problems in mariculture were presented. The partners could make use of COMFAS' long experiences with sustainable mari-aquaculture in Zamboanga Sibugay. The presented technology and practices will be applied by SPC once they can operate and managed the mari-aqua park.

AgriCOOPh, with the assistance of Trias, has started to support the LGU and Silverbay Producers Cooperative in finding solutions to the environmental deterioration of the Balingasag Mariculture Park by linking them with academic partners, specifically, the University of the Philippines Institute of Aquaculture and Mindanao State University (MSU). They assess the biophysical and socio-economic aspects of the Balingasag Mariculture and provide recommendations for improved management.

Concrete results from this dialogue and cooperation established with the LGU Balingasag are: (1) an invitation by LGU Balingasag for AgriCOOPh to manage the Balingasag Mariculture Park, and a draft memorandum of understanding for the review of the Local Sanggunian; (2) a memorandum of understanding between AgriCOOPh and MSU-Naawan for joint undertakings on coastal resource management within its catchment, including that of Balingasag.

AgriCOOPh assisted PUBAC in establishing link with LGU Cabadbaran for support to business activities of the primary cooperative Puting Bato Multi-Purpose Cooperative (PUBAC). The LGU, through the Office of the Local Chief Executive and the Cooperative Development Office provided funding support of PHP 500,000 (EUR 8,928) in the form of a soft (with no interest) loan for the consumer and marketing enterprise of PUBAC.

Under the TRIAS partnership, AgriCOOPh conducted the National Forum on Food Procurement which was attended by 12 primary coop leaders supported by FO4A through Trias and from other member and non-member cooperatives of AgriCOOPh and farmers organizations. In-depth discussions took place with experts of the government food procurement program – EPAHP (Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty). There was a direct interaction with key government players - DSWD, government prison and hospital facilities – who provided guidance on how to access the big government market through bulk purchases.

¹⁰³. **8762 / KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:**

No activities were initially planned under C2. However, KOKAMA, HTNM and KSU NM had the chance to participate in national exhibition with the farmers' enterprise network in Temanggung.

3.2.3 COMPONENT 3: INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS

104. The last component aims at improvements within the organizational context. Institutional strengthening may be achieved through advisory services by the agri-agencies that facilitate the *"undertaking [of] capacity assessments and agreeing on development plans [...], improving information management and planning, and developing inventory and traceability systems [...] as well, gender and youth aspects and considerations [...] ensuring these dimensions are mainstreamed"* (Grant Agreement, p.5). FO staff cost support, linked to the objectives of the projects, is included under this component. This is institutional support aiming to further professionalisation of the FO whilst it makes progress towards sustainable financial autonomy and viability.



Picture: 21 - Leadership training with the board members of FAEC. An Chankomar (2022)

105. The mainstreaming of youth and gender aspects are further explained in section 3.3 Cross Cutting Issues.

106. **8701 / VCA – QNCA, CCCSC, PYCA, NACA / FFD / Vietnam:**

In 2022, several Cooperative Alliances requested financial training which were then conducted in November. An exchange visit between NACA and TTHCA was conducted in November including nine (9) participants. The exchanges were about experiences made in nursery production, timber plantation, forest certification, indigenous tree plantation, beekeeping, and other related topics. The integration of youth and women was supported by conducting a baseline study.

107. **8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:**

FAEC conducted two-day leadership and management trainings for staff and representatives. External experts conducted the training, and the progress was captured in tests where participants improved from 36% to 85% in their scores.

FAEC's executive committee (consisting of five members) monitored and reviewed the achievements, budget execution and the progression of the action plans and met on five (5) occasions.

In 2022, the board of directors successfully approved a five-year strategic plan and updated its facilitation and training service fees. Due to budgetary constraints, the board of directors met only once in 2022.

108. 8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:

All planned activities under component 3 were conducted in 2022.

The integration of youth and women into commodity value chains proceeded. Participation in the development of four (4) commodity chains (coconut, cacao, coffee, banana). Out of 265 people (target: 300) participating in the development activities, the FOs approximated gender parity (45% women). Room for improvement lies in the integration of youths who constituted 5% of the participants.

Social Enterprise management and financial system trainings were conducted with 83 (target: 100) participants from three (3) FOs. Digital bookkeeping and accounting systems will improve the financial management in the coming months.

The FOs' project management teams (25 participants) of five (5) FOs were further trained in project implementation monitoring and evaluation (PIME). Another 41 reviewed the processes of their organizations in preparation of the annual reporting of 2022 and planning of 2023.

The annual project assessment and planning session was attended by 122 participants including 27 representatives from ten (10) FOs.

109. 8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:

Some activities were conducted under component 3 with focus on capacity building and organization. Fifteen (15) leaders and representatives trained under LEATRA methodology, and thirty-three (33) participants joined trainings on strategic thinking. More activities and more participation in that regard is expected for 2023.

In 2022, the formation of six (6) VSLA groups was facilitated with participants from two (2) women and youth groups. Needs assessments were conducted with 98 women and 16 youth which will serve to develop new regulations, products, and services.

110. 8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:

The set-up and training on the Internal Organic Rice Guarantee System were conducted in 2022. CANOFECO supported the 5 farmers members (Jovie Espanol, Concepcion Palma, Fely Velasco, Adrian Abordo, and Abel Llander) of the Core Participatory Guarantee System (PSG) group with the certification, in preparing farm maps and profiles, two important steps in the certification process.

Trias assisted CANOFECO to review its business plan. Monthly advisory meeting and quarterly discussions on business issues were conducted by Trias.

111. 8708 / FNN / AsiaDHRRA / Cambodia:

A process for registering the FFN AgriCoop Shop as a cooperative union was started and the necessary by-laws completed. Financial management and marketing training for the staff managing the shop was provided by CamboDHRRA.

112. 8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:

The organizational profiles of five (5) FOs were finalized using a comprehensive profiling tool. The remaining four (4) FOs are currently conducting the profiling exercise.

The organizational status of all nine (9) FOs was reviewed and analysed using the CSA Rapid Appraisal Tool. Data banks of individual members were updated and newly encoded for seven (7) of the selected FOs. Preliminary analyses of the data were conducted, and demographic data will be made available to CSA Philippines.

Further under C₃, consultation meetings were organized between the nine (9) FOs and local consultants monthly to monitor and accompany the intervention planning and implementation. From August to December, the Cooperative Capacity Strengthening Intervention Plans were updated.

All FOs had formulated their Strategic Plans after an initial consultation meeting with the project team and consultants. Three (3) physical strategic planning sessions were conducted with three (3) FOs.

Regular meetings and mandated organizational activities (executive committee, national council, general assembly) were conducted. Regular planning and updating is integrated into regularized staff meetings.

113. 8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:

My Coop training was conducted for 3 days in Luzon Visayas and Mindanao in different locations. The main objective of this training is to enable the managers and leaders of cooperatives and FOs to identify and address major management challenges in market-oriented agricultural development. (MY.COOP) and MY.COOP MODULES Governance and financial management workshops were carried out in Davao and Butuan City and 5 cooperatives participated in an annual development plan and budget workshop.

114. 8721 / COMFAS / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

To strengthen COMFAS' institutional development, workshops on financial systems and managing and monitoring capacities were conducted in 2022. Fifteen (15) persons (including the COMFAS board) developed their financial workplan and planned the monthly financial reporting.

The board conducted quarterly meetings in 2022. Towards the end of the year, an organizational assessment was conducted, and the following areas of action were identified:

- a. The development of a roadmap for COMFAS towards becoming a unified provincial cooperative.
- b. The strengthening of the monitoring and evaluation system.
- c. The transformation of the secretariat into an effective management unit. This includes the development of management tools such as manual of operations, strategic plans, evaluation tools, etc.
- d. The development of the business structure and activate business operation. Particularly the seaweeds marketing and oyster processing business stand out.

115. 8722 / AGFU / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:

Training sessions on planning and financial reporting were organised for producer groups.

116. 8724 / PTBC / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:

Not available

117. 8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

A workshop on financial management for business in Gunungkidul was conducted.

118. 8726 / KSPS / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

A financial management software was acquired. As a follow up for the computerization of the KSPS and its MFI financial management systems, a training was conducted for 6M/4W/15Y/25T to optimize the use of the new system.

119. 8727 / API / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

Training modules, financial SOPs, and a computer-based financial system have been prepared and in the process of being operationalized in Mama cooperative. Two (2) FO's leaders and staff (35) received financial literacy training strengthening their capacities in cost and investment planning and financial structure analysis.

120. 8728 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

The Board members were coached and mentored in providing strategic orientations to the organisation.

121. 8729 / MARCCO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

The project supported the organisation of the Board meetings, participation to cluster meetings as well as organising the General Assembly. Also, participation of MARCCO staff to training on cooperative annual progress report submission to the authorities. The multiannual strategy planning was also supported. Accounting systems were installed, and two suitable computers acquired.

122. 8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:

Activities under C3 were slightly adapted: leadership trainings were postponed to 2023 because programme planning, and business development activities were prioritized in 2022.

In 2022, AgriCOOPh started to work on risk management at the level of the individual farmer producers. In July 2022, AgriCOOPh trainers were trained on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (DRR CCA) using AgriCord's Building Resilience module which was adapted to the Philippine context. SOEMCO participated in the roll out with 24 participants.

Identified action points emerging from the individual CCA Plans of farmers and fisherfolk for 2023 are: the organisation of trainings with the Department of Agriculture on the diversification of climate resilient crops, and SALT (Sloping Agricultural Land Technology);

likewise ensuring protection of farmers through registration to NCFRS (National Coconut Farmers Registry System, RSBSA (Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture), IDOFS (Integrated Diversified Organic Farmers System) and coverage under the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation.

The roll-out training of DRR CCA Training to Puting Bato Multi-Purpose Cooperative was attended by 23 participants. Based on the individual CCA plans of participant farmers, it pointed to the need for further trainings on specific disaster responsiveness trainings. For AgriCOOPh, the emerging action point is to create a Business Continuity Plan and to develop a strategy note and pathways towards agri-cooperative resiliency modelling. This will be done in 2023.

AgriCOOPh conducted Organization Capacity Assessment workshops with 3 cooperatives namely PUBAC, SOEMCO and PSC. Programme planning technical assistance was provided to SPC.

Trias conducted a SPIDER workshop (baseline scores) with AgriCOOPh. In this context, a 5-year Organizational Development Plan was finalized. Organizational and business management needs were identified e.g., the mainstreaming of gender empowerment and inclusion, environmental sustainability and climate change and the lobby and advocacy among AgriCOOPh member cooperatives.

123. **8762 / KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:**

Significant efforts in 2022 went into the organizational strengthening of the three FOs. Initial strategic dialogues and planning were followed by contracting of the individual partners and launching of the project. These steps were accompanied by the UPA DI project manager. All partnering organizations (KSU NM, KOKAMA, HTNM, AsiaDHRRA, InDHRRA and Trias) were met personally in the process.

KSUNM was supported through the necessary purchase of computers to improve the administrative and financial management, and to ensure effective reporting under the present UPSCALE project. One computer is used by the project coordinator, one by the administrative assistant, and one shared by the elected officials as needed, pending the arrival of the organisation's financial officer.

An organizational capacity assessment was conducted by Trias using the SPIDER tool. The results informed the basic training on project and financial management as a first step to organisational strengthening. Workshops on business and finance systems followed and Standard Operation Procedures were worked out.

Trainings were conducted to improve the organizational capacities on the promotion of products, appropriate use of social media, online sales, reputation building and customer relations. Market place optimization trainings were conducted to capacitate FOs to open and maintain online stores.

An important step was taken to institutionalize natural farming field schools. The leaders in the villages are trained to report to the member base the knowledge gained from KSU, but also to make it easier for KSU understand the needs of the farmers through efficient communication mechanisms. The Farmers field schools are strengthening technical capacities of the leaders at the same time as they are allowing KSU to have a formalized ToT and ToL mechanism, through an institutionalized communication system.

Youth were specifically targeted by the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation trainings that consisted of theoretical classes and hands-on field demonstrations. Youth were further targeted with awareness education classes in Rural Development and Joint Venture. Obstacles and opportunities to youth integration in village development and collective businesses were identified and formulated.

More awareness trainings took place on the issue of gender inclusion. Gender dynamics in the FOs were discussed and good practices exchanged to ensure equal treatment and integration of the genders.

Women leadership trainings were conducted with women representatives. Group discussion methods were employed to collectively improve the participants' understanding of women leadership in the FOs. Further, facilitator trainings were conducted with the women representatives to improve the capacities in that regard.

Strategic planning sessions took place throughout the year to exchange on short-, middle-, and long-term goals as to work out clear directions for the FOs.

3.3 CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

124. Four major transversal topics are of relevance in the FO4A programme: Gender, Youth, environmental sustainability and climate change, and nutrition. Some of the following examples will show that these ideal categories are hardly separable, as they are in practice very integrated. Often, they must be treated jointly to address them individually. Most of the following examples are therefore embedded into activities that address more than one dimension.

3.3.1 GENDER

125. All participating agri-agencies mainstream gender into their approaches with the aim to support FOs in improving gender equality and inclusiveness. Gender-specific activities can be geared toward women's capacities and skills specifically (e.g., through financial literacy training), or activities that aim to create a more inclusive environment by creating awareness for women-specific challenges and the advantages of representative farmer organizations among those who lead FOs. Figures on women's attendance in statutory meetings and individual women assuming leadership positions are indicative to more inclusive farmer organizations. But also, the capturing of disaggregated data by FOs has already a reflective character and fosters awareness about the (im-) balance of women and youth involvement.

126. AgriCord is also working towards more transformative gender approaches at the alliance level. To provide a space for sharing experiences and best practices on gender approaches and for building the agri-agency competencies on the topic, the AgriCord Programme Commission established a Working Group on Gender. The Working Group has



Picture: 22 - Women at a session on strategic planning. UPA DI, Trias, KSU NM, KOKAMA, HTNM (2022)

mapped the existing tools and approach among the alliance and has started to build a resource library, which includes already a checklist on gender inclusive project design and examples of gender methodologies (i.e. Trias Gender Inclusion Trajectory), and approaches applied by different agri-agencies. The secretariat will support the Working Group in organising virtual workshops in 2023 during which the existing resources will be presented to all agri-agencies and examples from good gender results in the projects can be shared.

127. The following list is an overview of gender-specific activities in the projects:

128. **8701 / VCA – QNCA, CCCSC, PYCA, NACA / FFD / Vietnam:**

The partnering organizations of the project try to ensure a balanced gender-distribution for their activities. There is a gender key which mandates, that at least 30% of the participants need to be women. Further, the establishing of tree nurseries creates income and work especially for women as they do require little access to land.

129. **8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:**

In 2022, 596 women participated in project activities. Gender parity was reached in most activities (e.g., the development activities of their commodity value chains). Gender inclusive value chains were a key priority of the project. Especially the wage and income gap between men and women can be addressed through more participatory processes.

In some activities women even outnumbered men. Financial management in the FOs is a field in which women are over-proportionally represented in the Philippines. Approximately 60% of attendees of social enterprise and finance trainings conducted by Farmcoop were women.

Four (4) Farmcoop member FOs were trained in the use of the Computerized Gender and Development (GAD) assessment tool for cooperatives. The ability to assess gender-relevant issues in the cooperatives is part of the wider We Effect country strategy that engages organizations on matters of gender equality, transformative housing, and the empowerment of rural folk. Three (3) FOs identified their weaknesses for further improvement.

130. **8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:**

A needs survey for women and youth was conducted (see component 3) in 2022 to tailor services, support, and products. Further, LPMPC was actively supporting an 18-day awareness campaign about ending violence against women.

131. **8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:**

CANOFECO continues to work on strengthening gender and inclusion in the cooperative movement. Visibility campaigns through social media were undertaken especially during the celebration of Women Month (March 2022). During the first semester, the gender and development committee (GAD) proposed their 2022 annual plan which was subsequently approved by the General Assembly. Livelihood trainings for women were conducted with 18 women. Village Saving and Loan Associations register a high share of women, enabling them and their families to satisfy capital needs.

132. **8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:**

Women's inclusion is ensured in PAKISAMA's activities. Further, seven (7) out of nine (9) consultants are women.

133. **8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:**

AgriCOOPh ensures on active participation of women in all activities – 40-50 % of participants target. In AgriCOOPh staff, 55% of its 36 staff are women. Also, in the conduct of cooperative organisational assessment, gender balance topics are actively addressed.

134. **8722 / AGFU / AsiaDHRR / Vietnam:**

The project supports palm sugar producing households from the Khmer community, which is an ethnic minority in the country. Khmer women have low formal education, which makes them reluctant to take their place in the cooperative and other communal activities. The project aims to boost their self-confidence by ensuring women's active participation in different project activities.

135. **8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:**

Three basic gender workshops were conducted in 2022 to start the work on improving women's position within the FO governance and their participation into different FO activities. In total, 51 women and 12 men followed this training.

136. **8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:**

AgriCOOPh participated together with other Trias partners (COMFAS) in gender and inclusivity orientation facilitated by the Trias inclusivity advisor. There were 29 (20 women, 2 youths) participants consisting of staff and leaders. Gender and inclusion gaps were identified, recommendations for improvements were made and the next steps identified.

137. **8762/ KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:**

The strategy for women and youth inclusion in this project foots on two aspects: ensuring a balanced composition in the FO activities (including value chain activities and governance), and earmarked capacity building classes.

At the startup of the project a lot of effort went into ensuring the strong involvement of women and youth into the local steering structures of FO₄A project. Based on this effort, the project implementation team of FO₄A consists of 7 females of 17 staff in total with roles that are spread structurally in the management team and the project's area team.

Gender awareness trainings were conducted, as well as leadership and facilitation trainings for women to strengthen the role of women in the farmers' organizations.

3.3.2 YOUTH

138. Youth inclusion and empowerment go often hand in hand with gender strategies. The challenges for youth and women are not the same per se, but they are similar as they can be addressed with activities that aim for capacity improvements and the raising of awareness as groundwork, hence the choice for similar activities (capacity and awareness trainings, exchanges). Further, gender and youth intersect for many young women in agricultural communities with householding, familial and agricultural obligations.

139. Youth are an important pillar of the agricultural sector and the FOs. Their inclusion is a matter of long-term sustainability. FOs must be able to offer young people prospects and permanent participation in business and leadership decisions. Universal tendencies such as rural land flight can be hardly countered otherwise. Here, too, the number of trainings, workshops and exchanges reflect the efforts mobilized, while the increases in attendance to statutory meetings



Picture: 23 - Active youth member Erwin Zolas harvesting cabbage in organic greenhouse. Melissa Alamo (2022)

and youth in leadership positions indicate the effectivity of such measures.

140. The following list summarizes youth-specific activities and efforts in the projects:

141. **8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:**

Of the projects in AgriCord's sub-programme, Afdi's engagement with FAEC stands out on the topic of youth inclusion. It is the project's declared main goal to work on the inclusion of young farmers into cooperatives and farmers' organizations. It is particularly difficult in the Cambodian context to motivate young people to seek their future in the farming sector. Many youths move to urban areas for alternative forms of livelihood. The holistic approach of this project tries to create attractive FOs for ambitious young producers by covering several necessities: technical training on agricultural production, business training, leadership and advocacy trajectories, the creation of participatory institutional processes and networking of young farmers through inter-provincial and international exchanges. FAEC offers continuous support of these young farmers with the goal to rejuvenate farmers' organizations in Cambodia.

142. **8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:**

The development of youth integration turned out to play a bigger role than initially planned. A total of 658 youth was reached through the project's activities. The conducted baseline studies revealed that the FOs need to work on their attractiveness to young people. The development of young leaders is a key task. The conducted survey identified the development of a young generation of leaders, the collective management of resources, organic farming, and the issue of land rights among other topics as action and advocacy areas. The participatory youth development plans have shown to be effective measures to mobilize young people and spark their interest in farming and FO-life.

143. **8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:**

Youth representation in the board of directors is one-way LPMPC is mainstreaming youth participation into FO processes. Youth representatives were sent to Negros Occidental for a Trias-organized youth assembly. LPMPC consciously targets youth for their trainings of trainers, building their confidence as facilitators in the FO and active members of FO life.

144. **8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:**

CANOFECO participated in Trias organized youth assembly in Bacolod City (Nov 2022). The participants from CANOFECO meet other youth from other parts of the country who shared their experiences on youth organizing, youth empowerment. These learning shall be implemented to CANOFECO and through their member organizations.

145. **8708 / FNN / AsiaDHRRA / Cambodia:**

The project supported 3 young women to join the Agricultural Cooperative Business Forum held on the 6th-7th September 2022.

146. **8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:**

The supported FOs aim for youth inclusion in their activities and representation. Notable steps last year were the activation of youth committees in two (2) FOs with the goal to involve

the young members systematically into the management and decision-making processes of the organization.

147. 8721 / COMFAS / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

A sizeable number of young fishers have joined COMFAS through their membership with the primary associations. This can be attributed to the FO's campaigning efforts to mobilized young fishers to get become active members in the primary cooperatives and COMFAS.

COMFAS has likewise hosted internship programmes, such as from Silliman University, University of the Philippines-Manila, and other church organizations such as the United Church of Christ of the Philippines (UCCP) and student scholars of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). The participants of these types of activities are mostly young people.

148. 8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

Youth has played a vital role in the digitalisation of the FOs marketing and sales. A group of 16 young people (10 W/6M) are creating content for FB, TikTok, Instagram and YouTube to promote Bingkon products. Youth are also promoting serving chocolate drinks in different social gatherings. These marketing techniques have boosted the chocolate powder sales.

The ISLACO General Assembly elected the first young farmer as member of the Board. This was agreed through a resolution by the existing Board: An amendment to the by-laws is proposed next year to institutionalize such practice. ISLACO started also organizing the youth sector-as a cluster within the cooperative. The structure of youth association provide opportunity to design programs best suited for young farmers.

149. 8728 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

ISLACO started organizing youths as clusters within the cooperative. The structure of youth associations provides opportunities to design programmes that are suitable to their needs and wishes. Further, youth are heavily involved as workers and processors of tablea and pinyato products in ISLACO.

150. 8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:

The first year of the project has successfully raised awareness on the need of youth integration and empowerment and involvement in vital decision making and provision of specific services for them in the MBO. In AgriCOOPh, it gives organization and official recognition to its core youth team – the AgriCOOPh Young Agripreneurs.

Inspired by the lessons learnt from the involvement in the TRIAS-sponsored Youth Camp conducted in Talisay, Negros Occidental last November 11-15, 2022, 2 youth leaders proposed to AgriCOOPh management to involve the youth sector stronger in its developmental activities. The youth groups see themselves as agents of change not only within AgriCOOPh but even more so as influencers for the primary coop members in the federation. A youth inclusion strategy will be developed in detail in 2023.

151. 8762 / KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:

Similar as to the strategy on women inclusion, youth involvement is ensured in two ways: by composing FO activities in a balanced way, and by building youths' technical capacities on key economic processes in the organizations. Awareness classes on village development are paired with theoretical and practical classes (e.g., on climate change adaptation and mitigation).

3.3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

152. In 2022, the secretariat noted that especially farmers in Africa encountered several challenges, all reflective of the climate crisis at large. Droughts, excessive rainfalls, and changes in previously stable patterns of seasonal rainfall are consequences of climate change that are felt by many farmers right now. The situation was more favourable for the implementing organizations of the FO4A programme, but also here previously stable patterns in the environment change.



Picture: 24 - Organic concoctions for organic rice production. CANOFECO, TAMUCO (2022)

153. AgriCord Climate Action

Smallholder farmers are often disproportionately vulnerable to the effects of climate change due to poverty, marginalisation, and dependence on natural resources. Agriculture, forestry, and related land use are also one of the main contributors to global greenhouse gas emission (15%). Small-scale farmers are often influential actors in this regard, e.g., by acting as main contributors to deforestation. The strategic role of farmers' organisations has been underestimated by international climate policy makers, national governments, and the private sector. In consequence of the general disregard, only 1.7% of all climate funds reach farmers.

154. That situation is even more regrettable as producer / farmer organisations provide a safety net and a structure for producers to increase their individual and collective resilience to climate change impacts while having the potential of acting in mitigating capacity.

155. AgriCord's climate action contributes a) to the development of a spectrum of sustainable agricultural approaches such as agroecology, agroforestry, sustainable land and water management, or conservation agriculture among others; and b) to the development of climate tools that allow farmers' organisations to plan climate action according to their priorities.

156. Concretely, the goals of the AgriCord Climate Action are to improve the data collection of climate information by producers, to improve the ability of FOs to advocate in the interest of

small producers when it comes to climate relevant issues, and to establish a climate funding mechanism for FOs.

157. Agri-agencies have accumulated expertise on a range of topics with which they support FOs: in the diversification of agricultural production; through the promotion of farmer-produced seeds; in the adoption of farmer-managed natural tree regeneration and restoration of lost vegetation with the cultivation of high-value multipurpose trees; in improving soil fertility through the evidence-based adoption of resilient agroecological practices; in self-production of quality organic fertilizers and compost and the reduction of chemical fertilizers; in the reduction of soil erosion and improved soil fertility; and overall sustainable land and forest management.
158. Methodologies include: training (and training of trainers) on the resilience approach; workshops; study circles; demonstrations and experimental plots; organising contacts with input suppliers; promoting greater use of information and communication technologies to disseminate extension content and weather information to farmers; identification and sharing of best practices at national, sub-regional, regional, intercontinental levels
159. Resilience is built on primary and secondary FO-level through a) [the evaluation of climate risks considering the FO's priorities](#), and b) the subsequent protection of the FO's operations through a resilience plan.
160. This far, training-of-trainers were conducted in Cambodia, Guinea, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Uganda, Tanzania, Togo, Vietnam and online. The application of the exercises was developed by AsiaDHRRA, Asprodeb, FERT, FFD, AFDI, and Trias. The elaboration of FO-level action plans was evaluated in Tanzania with Trias and FFD, further adapted by FERT in Madagascar and further adoption is planned in 2023 in Nepal and Uganda.
161. The strength in AgriCord's climate approach lies:
 - a. In the emphasis on inclusion and activation of women and youth as an essential element in the process of climate change adaptation and mitigation through agroecological transition.
 - b. In the alliance's experience in developing partnerships with research, private sector, governments, international organisations in the field of agroecology.
 - c. In more than thirty years of collaborative experience and a wide range of collective services and networks at various levels
 - d. In experienced capacity development of FOs to influence and develop policies based on scientific evidence and in collaboration with national and sub-regional platforms
 - e. In the synergies between programmes globally (FO4ACP, SAFE 2020, SEPOP, FO-RI) and synergies with initiatives at national and international level
162. The mainstreaming of agroecological (or similar) methods and approaches had started a while ago in the AgriCord alliance. Progressively, the individual agri-agencies incorporate sustainable agricultural techniques into their specific activities and interventions, often intersecting with topics of youth or women inclusion. Sustainable practices are also increasingly recognized as cost-efficient practices by farmers and are framed as such by trainers. A good understanding and propagation of the economic benefits of sustainable practices are a pre-condition for a wide and successful adoption.

163. The following list summarizes the activities of the projects regarding environmental matters:

164. **8701 / VCA – QNCA, CCCSC, PYCA, NACA / FFD / Vietnam:**

In 2022, the focus was on applying the knowledge on forestry techniques especially sustainable forest management. Forest owners have reduced the burning of vegetation when preparing land for planting. Forest growers are now more aware about the issues of pollution and normalized to collect plastic waste during afforestation. The diversification of products and climate resilience were discussed in the Roundtables, and recommendations were produced for state agencies based on the exchange.

An interesting initiative took place in the Tinh Tho cooperative. They assessed a mobile application for measuring carbon stocks of smallholder forest plots.

165. **8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:**

FAEC incorporates sustainable farming techniques in their technical training trajectories for young farmers. The use of compost, natural pesticides, bio-safe raising of chickens including local feed production are sustainable and cost-effective measures that they aim to widely adapt through the generational change in the FOs.

166. **8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:**

Through Farmcoop more farmers decide to go towards organic certification for their products. Thirty-five (35) farms applied for banana cardava certification. Agroecological methods are promoted for Cavendish bananas as they are suitable to eradicate common crop diseases (Panama, TR4).

167. **8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:**

Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation trainings (Training of Trainers) was conducted applying the AgriCord Building Resilience Toolkit. Three (3) youth participants attended (2 women and 1 man). During the year, LPMPC submitted a proposal on pineapple circular economy with EU. In the proposal, it was highlighted that LPMPC contributes to mitigating climate change through good agricultural practices, low usage of external inputs and good waste management practices (turning pineapple leaves to fibre). LPMPC will fortify its environmental strategies and approaches in preparation for developing proposal for the province of West Flanders, Belgium's GSTIC Programme.

168. **8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines:**

CANOFECO made efforts to improve its environmental sustainability interventions by increasing its promotional capacities. Staff and volunteer farmers were trained as trainers on DRR-CCA using the AgriCord Building Resilience toolkit facilitated by Trias. Two (2) CANOFECO staff, one (1) PDCl staff and two (2) farmers (2 women, 3 men, 2 youth) were trained and started roll-out to individual farmers in S2.

The Participatory Guarantee System, Internal Control System and standards were drafted and will be applied to all rice farmers practicing organic and sustainable farming. Promotion and capacity building will be undertaken in the programme as contribution to climate change mitigation and sustainable livelihood and enterprise for farmers and to CANOFECO.

CANOFECO will continue to promote organic rice as a business and as a climate change mitigation action. Climate change is already integrated in the season long training on organic rice to increase awareness of farmers on climate change – its impact and what action can be done to adapt.

169. 8708 / FNN / AsiaDHRRA / Cambodia:

FNN conducted a learning exchange visit in the Siemreap province for eleven (11) farmers. The demo farm is specialized on technical skills in the chicken value chain.

170. 8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:

The project assisted initiatives to promote environmental sustainability and climate justice through application of IDOFs technology, development of demo-farms and learning sites, production of bio-organic fertilizers and partnership with academic institutions to promote organic farming and inculcate the importance of farming and agriculture especially to the students.

171. 8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:

During the learning visits, circular economy and the use of organic fertilizer are promoted. AgriCOOPh intends to also promote PAKISAMA's Integrated Diversified Organic Farming System (IDOFs) soon.

172. 8721 / COMFAS / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:

It is important to understand that environmental sustainability constitutes one of the core aspects of the activities of COMFAS. The FO actively restores and co-manages the mangrove forests and coastal resources of the region in cooperation with the authorities. COMFAS further maintains multiple partnerships with universities and research institutes, making it a well-situated actor on matters of sustainability.

173. 8722 / AGFU / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:

The palm sugar producers reduce the carbon footprint of their operations and economize using waste products. Fruit peels are used to cook the palm sugar.

174. 8725 / Ngudi Mulyo / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

In cooperation with the GALIH community, Ngudi Mulyo advocate for natural farming methods. A partnership with DIY Agriculture Service in the processing of cacao can be highlighted, as well as the active waste management efforts with villages and local actors.

175. 8726 / KSPS / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

The Salassae village council, women's groups, and youth groups came to an agreement to plant a million trees in Salassae village on September 24, 2022, to honour Farmer's Day. They will be planted over a 5-year period, from 2022 to 2027.

The village representative body (BPD), the KSPS, and the village government all decided to use Salassae Village's status as a Natural Agriculture Village to establish apicultural production. The measure will increase plant productivity and offer an additional value chain

- honey. The first step in this long-term program for beekeeping will be to record the state of the vegetation in Salassae Village to identify the right bees and set-up.

176. **8728 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

ISLACO continues to implement the Integrated Diversified Organic Farming Systems (IDOFS) technology in vegetables production.

177. **8729 / ISLACO / AsiaDHRRA / Philippines:**

MARCCO actively advocates for the use of agroecological methods. In 2022, representatives attended the Eco-Ride of the Mindoro Federation of Cooperatives in Calapan City to visit mangrove rehabilitation sites in the province.

178. **8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:**

AgriCOOPh environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation intervention started implementation during the second semester of 2022.

It started with training of trainers on DRR – CCA using the AgriCord 5 Steps to Resiliency. Two (2) roll-out trainings were conducted with PUBAC and SOEMCO through AgriCOOPh and member cooperative trained trainers. The roll-out surfaced capacity gaps among farmers to implement their climate change adaptation plan. Common issues are capacity building needs on new agricultural technology; infrastructures to protect harvest like post-harvest warehouses, shed; lack of capital to invest in CCA infrastructure like irrigation, farm to market road; or low access to government crop insurance systems.

All these capacity gaps will be presented as proposal to government agencies and other stakeholders through lobby and advocacy, coaching and mentoring through cooperative agri and business extension staff. These actions are part of the 2023 workplan.

179. **8762 / KSU NM / UPA DI & Trias / Indonesia:**

Natural Farming and Field Schools were set up in 2022. Their function is manifold, as important communication channel, space for social exchanges but foremost for the systematic exchange on sustainable agricultural practices. This way, the FOs will institutionalize and mainstream ecologically sound practices in key areas such as rice seed and cassava production. Special interest goes into soil conservation methods. The integration of environmental and youth activities ensures the long-term sustainability of farming practices.

3.3.4 PEER-TO-PEER

180. The Peer-to-peer, farmer-to-farmer and FO-to-FO approach is an important aspect of the AgriCord intervention model, and all projects apply this approach in some form. As seen in the prior chapters, in some projects, the strengthening of the FO extension services is built on training of farmer extensionist who can support their peers in technical aspects related to agricultural production. Some examples are:



Picture: 25 - Farmer demonstrating machinery. Melissa Alamo (2022)

181. **8701 / VCA – QNCA, CCCSC, PYCA, NACA / FFD / Vietnam:**

A north-south exchange was conducted with Mr. Rauno from the Finnish twinning partner Savotta. He visited ICED (VCA), VFCO in Ha Noi, NACA and 2 cooperatives in NACA, CCCSC in Hue city, QNCA and 4 cooperatives in QNCA in November 2022.

Further, local exchanges continued. NACA organized a study trip for a group of cooperative staff and farmers to cooperatives in TTHCA and Forestry Cooperative Union of Ha Tinh province, to share lesson learned on nursery production, large timber plantation, forest certification, indigenous tree plantation (Melaleuca for medical oil), beekeeping.

182. **8702 / FAEC / Afdi / Cambodia:**

FAEC and Afdi organized a range of peer-to-peer exchanges within the context of their youth project. An exchange between ten (10) youth groups in four (4) provinces (44 participants) was conducted for the young farmers to exchange on practical and technical issues, marketing, and best practices. Vegetable production was at the centre of attention.

One exchange and learning mission was organized by Afdi and FAEC to France. Two (2) young Cambodian farmers and the director of the NFO exchanged with their French counterparts on agricultural techniques, marketing, and youth advocacy.

183. **8704 / Farmcoop / We Effect / Philippines:**

Technical exchanges took place between several FOs on techniques, tools and practices in the coconut and banana value chains.

184. **8706 / LPMPC / Trias / Philippines:**

Technical exchanges were organized allowing six (6) LPMPC staff to gain knowledge on production techniques and management practices at a *Green Options* farm in Batangas to improve the consistency of production quality. A cooperation on trial demos was agreed on to study growth and quality of fruits and leaves using foliar fertilizer. The study will span into 2023.

185. 8707 / CANOFECO / Trias / Philippines

Exchange visits on organic rice production technology to the Pecuaría Development Cooperative (PDC) were attended by 14 rice farmers including 5 women and 2 youth. This initiative familiarizes, educates, and inspires farmers to adopt the rice production techniques of PDC who have become one of the top certified organic rice producers in the country. Half of the participants were convinced to grow organic rice and three (3) are becoming seed producers.

186. 8713 / PAKISAMA / CSA / Philippines:

Regularized exchanges between the nine (9) participating FOs were an essential part of the intervention design. In 2022, local consultants assisted the FOs to exchange on best practices, strategies, and innovations. Exchanges took also place between CSA, AgriCOOPh and PAKISAMA.

187. 8720 / AgriCOOPh / CSA / Philippines:

A Cooperative Exchange session and a Learning visit were conducted in November.

188. 8722 / AGFU / AsiaDHRRA / Vietnam:

A market survey and experiential learning tour was conducted by AGFU to the Tuyet Phung coconut and coconut candy processing company in Ben Tre province. Through this activity, staff and farmers were able to exchange and learn about palm sugar products and the technical production process. This exchange also opened the opportunity to connect and introduce the palm sugar products of AGFU to the province.

ISLACO conducted Local Technology Mission on Cacao Fermentation Facility and Processing Centre with Bolusao Cacao Farmers Association and Calutan Cacao Farmers Association.

189. 8726 / KSPS / AsiaDHRRA / Indonesia:

In 2022, exchanges between villages in Bulukumba and between districts took place. Collaborations with South Sulawesi universities is ongoing. The Sulawesi Region Natural Resources Conservation Agency in Makassar visited KSPS as well as other farmers on study trips from other regions, including the Soppeng district. Young farmers from Salassae learned about animal feed production on an exchange launched by the Farmers Group in Bontoharu Village.

190. 8740 / AgriCOOPh / Trias / Philippines:

A learning exchange on DRR-CCA with Belgium Trias constituent Landelijke Gilde (LG) was conducted with the primary cooperative Diffun Saranay and Development Cooperative (DISADECO) representing the federation. Best practices were exchanged, and the participants jointly reflected on common climate change-induced problems. The follow-up exchange between these two FOs will happen in the Philippines in 2023.

Two (2) major local peer-to-peer learning exchanges were implemented by AgriCOOPh with its primary member cooperatives, (1) Learning Exchange between COMFAS, SOEMCO and SPC on the environmental sustainability of the operationalization of floating fish cages, and

(2) Peer-to-peer learning exchange between PUBAC and Guadalupe Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative on the operations of a coop consumer store.

The fisherfolk-to-fisherfolk exchange between COMFAS, SPC and SOEMCO (originally aimed at improving the environmental state of the now-polluted waters of the Balingasag Mariculture Park), created significant impact: the leadership of the Municipality of Balingasag extended AgriCOOPh the management of the Balingasag Mariculture Park, now the subject of a pending Memorandum of Understanding for the review by the local Sanggunian. Further, a partnership was recently established through a Memorandum of Understanding between AgriCOOPh and Mindanao State University-Naawan for joint collaborative efforts on the improvement of the fishery sector in Mindanao. Starting point is the biophysical and socio-economic assessment of the Balingasag Mariculture.

The peer-to-peer exchange between PUBAC and Guadalupe Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative, has given the former the much-needed guidance in the business strengthening of the coop and its consumer store operations. Tangible interventions were the training on basic financial management for consumer store operations, visual merchandising training with actual work done on improving the visibility of the PUBAC consumer store and a formal training of its women and youth officers on Coop Consumer Store Operations, done by AgriCOOPh Organizational Development head Gerardo Orano.

3.4 SYNERGIES AND COMPLEMENTARITY

191. As AgriCord manages several global and regional FO support programmes in addition to FO4A, including FO4LA (*Farmers' Organizations for Latin America*), FO4ACP (*Farmers' Organizations for the African, Caribbean and Pacific States*), FO RI (*Farmers' Organizations leading Research and Innovation*), the secretariat facilitates synergies and complementarities between the programs. In the Philippines, the EU financed FO RI programme complements Farmcoop's FO4A business development focused project by enabling farm-led research on saving the banana farms from fusarium oxysporum f.sp. Tropical Race 4 Disease through agroecological practices in Mindanao.
192. At country level synergies are ensured for example through training sessions that gather all the AgriCord FO4A implementing partners into a joint session. In 2022, this happened in Cambodia, Phnom Penh where both FAEC and FNN participated in a two-day training of trainers of the AgriCord Climate Resilience Toolkit. The training was given by FFD and CamboDHRRA.
193. AgriCord is partner of the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) of FAO. FFF provides direct financial support and technical assistance to strengthen FOs. Other partners in FFF are FAO, IIED and IUCN. AgriCord secretariat facilitates synergies in the countries where FFF operates. Vietnam is one of those countries. In 2022, FFF and Vietnam Farmers Organisation hosted an International Conference for sharing and learning with farm and forest producers' organisations. The delegates came from 32 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. The topic of the conference was "Saving our Future: Investing in locally led diversification for climate resilience and food security." AgriCord coordinated and prepared the participation of our FO partners from Vietnam, Madagascar, and West Africa in the conference.

Key recommendations of the conference, which were shared with the UN Decade of Family Farming (UNDDFF) Global Forum and through the FO participants, included a call to:

- enhance recognition of forest and farm producer organizations as the voice of family farmers, support their lobbying capacities, and provide evidence of their ability to deliver services to their members to address the climate crisis.
- include forest and farm producer organizations as key actors in policy formulation and implementation, and equal partners in the development of climate-financing mechanisms.
- implement legal and policy frameworks to strengthen land rights of local communities and Indigenous peoples, and provide incentives for locally led diversification measures, agroecology, and agroforestry practices, with a specific focus on women, youth, and ethnic minorities.
- support forest and farm producer organizations to strengthen their internal organization and entrepreneurship skills so they can attract youth to agriculture and to revalorize traditional knowledge.

The Forest and Farm Facility provides direct financial support and technical assistance to strengthen forest and farm producer organizations representing smallholders, rural women's groups, local communities, and indigenous peoples' institutions. Collectively, forest and farm

producers have the potential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to respond to climate change at landscape scales.

194. The presence of so many FOs from different parts of the world gave AgriCord the chance to organise two training of trainers sessions on the Building Resilience toolkit as a side event to the conference. One of the sessions was designated to the Vietnamese FO staff and leaders. Sessions were facilitated by a trainer from FFD and another trainer from the climate studies centre of the University of Hue.
195. AsiaDHRRRA is engaging in regional policy processes, such as promoting advocacy and capacity development for responsible investment in agriculture and rural digitalisation under a MoU with FAO. AsiaDHRRRA organizes virtual workshops and consultations on this topic to which the different FO4A FO partners are participating.
196. AgriCord partners and FOs provided technical and financial support. for the development of a COVID-19 recovery and innovation programme under the *Catalysing Recovery of Social and Community Enterprises for Transformation* (CRESCENT) initiative of the Institute for Social Entrepreneurship for Asia (ISEA).
197. AgriCord agencies in the Philippines are members of the Agricultural and Rural Development Knowledge and Policy Platform (ARDKPP) - a multi-sectoral group composed of NGOs (global and national), government agencies involved in rural development, and farmers and fishers' organizations which has been organizing the KLMPE. In 2022, We Effect provided technical support to the platform.
198. We Effect partners in the Philippines coordinate actions with each other through the We Effect Agricultural Innovators (We Agri). Farmcoop has participated in virtual and on-site learning exposures on the integrated climate adaptive and regenerative enterprise (I-CARE) approach of a We Effect partner in Negros. Project stakeholders also participated in PAKISAMA coordinated 40-day nationwide march-caravan of family farmers that started on March 28, 2022, from Sumilao, Bukidnon to Metro Manila. The march campaigned against hunger and poverty.

3.5 REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COORDINATION

199. AgriCord coordinates closely with the Asian Farmers' Association (AFA) on national-, programme- and alliance-level. The coordination and identification of synergies between participants of the programme in the national context has improved in 2022.
200. During the first semester National coordination meetings were held in Cambodia, the Philippines and Vietnam. AgriCord and AFA had several virtual meetings to plan the joint launch event and exchange some updates on the program implementation progress.
201. Three meetings between Afdi, FAEC, AsiaDHRRRA and FFN took place to explore synergies in the context of this programme implementation.

3.6 MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)

3.6.1 M&E SYSTEM

PILLAR SYSTEM

202. The Alliance remains committed to strengthening its M&E system and activities.
203. AgriCord's M&E, overall knowledge management, learning and capitalization comprise three pillars. They encompass 1) project-level performance, 2) organizational performance and 3) learning, capitalization, and broader impacts, including FO development.
204. To further support Pillar 1 reporting, the narrative reporting template was adjusted and simplified in alignment with the narrative section of the annual work plan and budget (AWPB). This allows for a simple cross-check between planned activities and realized ones. While reforms in Pillar 1 have been finalized during the last quarter of 2021, much work remains to be done to complete strategic reforms in Pillar 2 and 3. The Secretariat will continue these efforts, aiming to finalize them by the end of 2022.
205. In the context of Pillar 2, this includes the drafting of a Theory of Change and logical framework with performance indicators. In addition, an M&E Policy with guiding principles will be created. So far, a draft version of the Theory of Change has been created and presented to the Programme Management Unit in May 2022. The M&E focal person will present this version to the broader team during the first quarter of 2023. The remaining documents will be completed after the Theory of Change has been adopted.
206. For Pillar 3 on learning and broader impacts, please consult the next section on knowledge management and capitalization.

CONTINUOUS PROCESS

207. M&E is a continuous process. As mentioned previously, challenges remain with regards to M&E. Firstly, not all AAs were able to participate in previous M&E workshops for FO4 partners. Secondly, though generally data quality has been improving, during AgriCord's verification of 2021 results with FO4 member agri-agencies in February, it became clear that there still are some specific gaps to address. For FO4A, gaps include incomplete or untimely document submissions as well as missing data in individual project logframes.
208. The Secretariat organizes capacity-building activities around M&E. Though a round of 3 workshops (one in each language) was scheduled in April-May 2022 to support FO4 programming, this was diverted to support the FO-led Research & Innovation (FORI) Programme. Instead, individual mentoring sessions were organized for agri-agencies to reinforce capacities in a tailored fashion. In February 2022, 2 separate M&E coordination meetings were organized with AsiaDHRRA and CSA/PAKISAMA/AgriCOOPh to provide clarification on reporting and filling in the logical frameworks. A follow-up session with AsiaDHRRA was held in May 2022.

209. In 2022, a reformed version of the so-called Scoring process had been piloted. AgriCord relies on a peer-based review of project proposals before contracting projects in donor programmes. In other words, experienced project managers from the agri-agencies review project proposals of other agri-agencies using pre-defined clusters of criteria before they are approved by the programme commission of AgriCord and contracted. This process ought to assure the individual quality of project proposals and is part of the continuous improvement of programmes at large. A working group consisting of agri-agency and secretariat staff continues to work on the process.

3.6.2 RESULTS ANALYSIS

210. An insufficient number of logframes were complete at the time of submission to consolidate the overall logframe figures. Most logical frameworks had not been submitted by our internal AgriCord deadline of January 20th. The latter is important, as it allows AgriCord's multi-layered data collection, analysis, and verification process to take place. In total, out of 20 logical frameworks, 4 had not been submitted by February 15th – the reporting deadline to IFAD. These logical frameworks cover our work in Vietnam. In addition, out of the remaining 16 logframes, 5 were still undergoing second-line verification by the AgriCord Secretariat. Though submissions are still ongoing and have been integrated since, it does point to challenges within the Alliance to properly consolidate and submit data.
211. The following section should be considered as an additional explanation of the data and how it was calculated in the consolidated logframe. Rather than being exhaustive, it focuses on several key remarks:
212. The consolidated version for FO4A aggregates the data for all logframes, except for:
- The data for the project work with VNFU and AGFU in Vietnam. The data is of yet unavailable to the Secretariat, as AsiaDHRRRA is reviewing this with the partner FOs.
 - The data for CSA's project with PAKISAMA in the Philippines is currently still undergoing review.
 - The data for CSA's project with AgriCOOPh. Though data has been submitted to AgriCord, this is still being reviewed at our level, as there is a degree of unclarity. The logframe has been included, however, in the consolidated version.
213. Comments made by agri-agencies have been retained to provide additional narrative details about results and overall data. These can be found to the right of the logframe in the "Comments" section in each individual logframe.
214. Reference lists with information about knowledge and communication products have been added separately for those projects that have them.
215. All indicators are on target, considering the stage of implementation. It should be noted in this regard that many projects started implementation quite late in 2021.

216. This can be seen across all components. This is noticeable at the level of the longer-term objectives as well as at the level of the more immediate outputs. For example, for Specific Objective 1, the number of individual producers benefiting from FOs/coops economic initiatives increased from 11835 at baseline to 15534 in 2022 because of the FO4 programme. This represents a substantial increase of smallholder farmers, benefiting from strengthened FO services, compared to the mid-term target of 17435. It also indicates the increase of farmer trust in FO economic capacities. In the area of policy influence and advocacy (Component 2), performance has even surpassed pre-set targets. A total of 25 policies and programmes have been influenced because of FO advocacy efforts, compared to a baseline of 14 and a mid-term target of 23. This performance is mirrored to an extent at output level. FOs are participating more than was expected in policy environments (54 in 2022, compared to a mid-term target of 49) and in value chain platforms (32 in 2022, compared to a mid-term target of 22). Strengthened farmer trust in FOs as effective institutions is also evident from increased membership growth: membership numbers increased from 593724 at baseline to 695741 in 2022 – an increase of slightly over 100,000 individual farmers. It should be noted, however, that the lion's share of this statistic is taken up by AgriCOOPh's member count. As several of our partners work with either AgriCOOPh or AgriCOOPh, care was taken to disaggregate project results from each other.
217. As strengthening FOs as confident economic agents is an essential part of this programme, it is worthwhile looking at both overall volume and value of marketed goods. For these indicators, FOs also performed very well. The overall volume increased from 44650 tons at baseline to 75307 tons in 2022, compared to an end target of 60815 tons. Similarly, the value of marketed goods has increased from 2,800,467 EUR at baseline to 7,908,769 EUR in 2022, compared to an end target of 10,146,383 EUR. Much of this increase is due to FFD's project in Vietnam, which focuses on building resilience of smallholder forestry livelihoods through increasing the expected financial returns of high-quality acacia hardwood, while providing means to address climate and biodiversity concerns. This project also overperformed significantly compared to its targets.

3.7 KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND VISIBILITY

218. In 2022, knowledge management became a centre piece of attention for the AgriCord secretariat. After the initial consolidation of the M&E system, the groundwork was laid to operationalize the Knowledge Management and Learning Strategy and a one-year action plan. The Strategy gives an overview on AgriCord's vision, guiding principles, components, and matching activities around knowledge management and learning. A new Annual Action Plan was drafted to cover activities in 2023.
219. AgriCord launched its new [website](#) and resource space in December 2022. It is now in line with present standards of website design, integrates social media functions and includes a dedicated section for resources. Over the long-term, a Community of Practice on the site will be established.
220. The secretariat piloted and launched some new KM initiatives in 2022.
- a. Our quarterly newsletter [Crossroads](#) has now been successfully piloted in 2022. Crossroads collects interesting, short, and relevant articles on lessons learnt, successes and challenges in our project work. 4 separate issues went out last year. Each issue focuses on topics of interest for the agri-agencies and their partner FOs. Guest authorship is a new feature, which allows for agri-agencies and now also FOs to write about their work. In the context of FO4A, Luchie Almagro (AsiaDHRRA) drafted an article on rural digitalization. The audience has thus far consisted of agri-agency staff through direct mail. More recently, as of the end of December, any member of the public may subscribe on the AgriCord site. Three (3) issues in English, French and Spanish were published so far in April, July, and November 2022. In January 2022, 122 readers were subscribed.
 - b. [Spotlight](#) is a video series, consisting of short snippets on concrete issues and lessons learnt. In 2022, the first episode covered the use of an organic fertilizer in Mali, followed by a video on extension services in Kenya. We plan to produce four videos a year and host some of our members' videos as well. For 2023, we intend to capture examples of best practices from the FO4A programme. The videos visually acknowledge the Alliance's overall financial partners as well as the concrete implementing parties.
 - c. The secretariat launched and facilitated in virtual *Learning Moments* to the internal exchange of best practices in the alliance. The AgriCord alliance can profit from the variety of professional AA-profiles, methodologies, geographical reach, and cultural diversity. The exchanges take place between and across programmes, agri-agencies, and geographical areas. The format can vary but is overall similar. A session takes about two (2) hours consisting of two (2) parts. The secretariat sets the topical focus, selects speakers, and devises a leading questionnaire. Champions are offered to present their experience. The second part is participatory. The participants discuss key questions in moderated breakout rooms before they compare their outputs in plenary. The sessions are designed to avoid formal and static encounters, as the peer setting allows to be precise and relevant, and to allow participants to contribute, reflect and propose. Two piloting workshops were conducted in 2022 including anglophone, Hispanic- and francophone implementors from the FO4A, FO4ACP, FO4LA and AFD-SEPOP programme. The participants expressed their interest in the continuation of this KM series. We will therefore aim for more in 2023.

221. Knowledge Management is a key growth area for AgriCord. Its members commit to the goal of establishing a wider organizational culture of learning.

VISIBILITY

222. All partners work on the visibility of the FO4A programme and the visibility of technical and financial partners (European Union, International Fund for Agricultural Development). The corresponding logos are displayed when possible and appropriate, for example on banners and clothing during trainings, workshops, fairs, meetings, or places of sales when these activities are enabled through programme funds. Publications and other communicational and educational materials display donor logos and disclaimers when appropriate.

223. The consistency of referencing has improved in 2022 and the implementing agencies are regularly reminded of the visibility guidelines.

224. In 2022, the AgriCord Secretariat launched the quarterly newsletter Crossroads that targets alliance members, partners, and the public. Guest authors are regularly invited to contribute and exchange on current key topics. For example: Crossroads 1/3 featured an article on Rural Digitalization by AsiaDHRRA's Luchie Almagro. The newsletter allows our partners of the different agri-agencies, FOs and interested people from different geographical areas and linguistic communities (available in EN, FR and ES) to see how their peers approach shared challenges and potential solutions in a digestible format. For 2023, it is planned to include more articles that originate in the FO4A programme.

225. The implementing partners of FO4A were active on social media throughout the year including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Frequent occasions for social media attention were launch events, conferences, missions, and rollout trainings, among others.



3.8 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES 2022

Table 3: Statement of Expenditure

Grant nr : IFAD - AgriCord Grant Agreement
 2000003703
 Implementation period: 03/08/2021 - 30/06/2025
 Reporting period: From 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022

FO4ASIA



Currency: EUR

Description	Actual : 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022			Year to date: 2022			Cumulative to date: 2022				
	Total Actual Expenditure 1	Budget 2	Balance 3=2-1	Actual Expenditure 4	Budget 5	Balance 6=5-4	Actual Expenditure 7	Budget 8	Winding Up Expenditures	Balance 9=8-7	Balance %
Sources of Funds											
IFAD	-		0,00	-		0,00	1.068.393,27	3.500.000		2.431.606,73	69%
Counterpart fund											
Other donor											
Total Sources of Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.068.393,27	3.500.000		2.431.606,73	69%
Use of Funds (IFAD)											
C1 - Delivery of economic services along priority value chains	552.322,89	630.755	78.432,01	552.322,89	630.755	78.432,01	725.535,82	1.950.000		1.224.464,18	63%
C1.1 FO Local Costs	330.640,47										
C1.2 Agri-Agency Costs	201.220,10										
C1.3 Peer to peer and exchanges	20.462,33										
C1.4 Alliance	-										
C2 - Enabling the business environment	150.446,65	196.289	45.842,58	150.446,65	196.289	45.842,58	174.816,35	588.000		413.183,65	
C2.1 FO Local Costs	88.069,83										
C2.2 Agri-Agency Costs	55.336,65										
C2.3 Peer to peer and exchanges	7.040,18										
C2.4 Alliance	-										
C3 - Institutional Development of FO's	308.032,87	279.772	-28.260,88	308.032,87	279.772	-28.260,88	372.797,96	860.000		487.202,04	57%
C3.1 FO Local Costs	185.309,60										
C3.2 Agri-Agency Costs	42.039,34										
C3.3 Peer to peer and exchanges	-										
C3.4 Alliance	80.683,93										
C4 - Communication and Visibility	38.181,73	34.000	-4.181,73	38.181,73	34.000	-4.181,73	45.528,10	102.000		56.471,90	55%
Subtotal	1.048.984,15	1.140.816	91.831,98	1.048.984,15	1.140.816	91.831,98	1.318.678,23	3.500.000		2.181.321,77	62%
Non-IFAD											
Total Use of Funds	1.048.984,15	1.140.816	91.831,98	#####	1.140.816	91.831,98	1.318.678,23	3.500.000		2.181.321,77	62%
AVAILABLE BALANCE								250.284,96			

List of acronyms and abbreviations

(in order of appearance)

FO ₄ A	Farmers' Organizations for Asia
FO	Farmers' Organization
AFA	Asian Farmers' Association
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
SEA	Southeast Asia
AA	Agri-Agency
VNFU	Viet Nam Farmers Union
C ₁	Component 1
C ₂	Component 2
C ₃	Component 3
AIN	Agro-Info Net (Database used by AgriCord Agri-Agencies)
Afdi	Agriculteurs Français et Développement International (French Agri-Agency)
AsiaDHRRA	Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (Asian Agri-Agency)
CSA	Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires (Belgian Agri-Agency)
FFD	Food and Forest Development (Finnish Agri-Agency)
Trias	(Belgian Agri-Agency)
UPA DI	Union des Producteurs Agricoles - Développement Internationale (Canadian Agri-Agency)
We Effect	(Swedish Agri-Agency)
AgriCOOPh	Philippine Family Farmers' Agriculture-Fishery-Forestry Cooperatives Federation
VCA	Vietnam Cooperative Alliance
QNCGA	Quang Ngai Cooperative Alliance
CCCSC	Centre for Climate Change Study in Central Vietnam
PYCA	Phu Yen Cooperative Alliance
NACA	Nghe An Cooperative Alliance
FAEC	Facilitation Association of Economy for Cooperatives

Farmcoop	(Philippine Farmers' Organization)
LPMP	Labo Progressive Multi-Purpose Cooperative
CANOFECO	Camarines Norte Federation of Cooperatives
FNN	Food and Nature Net Association
PAKISAMA	Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka
COMFAS	Coalition of Municipal Fishers Associations in Zamboanga Sibugay
AGFU	An Giang Farmers' Union
PTBC	Phuc Thanh Beekeeping Cooperative
KSPS	Komunitas Swabina Pedesaan Salassae
API	Aliansi Petani Indonesia
ISLACO	Island of Samar and Leyte Agriculture Cooperative
MARCCO	Matulatula Agrarian Reform Community Cooperative
KSU NM	Ngudi Makmur
HTNM	Himpunan Tani Ngudi Makmur
KOKAMA	Koperasi Karya Mangunggal
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
PEFC	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
Savotta FMA	Savotta Forest Management Association
L&A	Lobby and Advocacy
VSLA	Village Saving and Loan Association
EU	European Union
FFO	Family Farmers' Organization
GALIH	(Farmers' Organization in Gunungkidul)
FFP ASEAN	Farmers Fighting Poverty ASEAN (previous FO support programme)
SDR	Sridonoretno Makmur Bersama Cooperative
MAMA	Koperasi Mitra Agribusiness Mandiri Amanah
RTD	Ready-to-drink
SOEMCO	Socorro Empowered Peoples Cooperative
SPC	Silverbay Producers Cooperative
PUBAC	Puting Bato Community Multipurpose Cooperative

DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
LAMAC	Lamac Multi-Purpose Cooperative
InDHRRRA	Indonesian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia
ICED	Institute for Circular Economy Development
VFCO	Vietnam Forest Certification Office
BMFV	Biomass Fuel Vietnam Co., Ltd.
TTH FOSDA	Viet Nature Conservation Centre
CORENARM	Consultative and Research Center on Natural Resources Management
SOP	Standard Operational Procedure
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practices
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
BPR	Business Performance Review
DRRM-CCA	Disaster Risk Reduction Management – Climate Change Adaptation
LEISA	Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture
LGU	Local Government Unit
PLGU	Provincial Local Government Unit
DA	Department of Agriculture
ATI	Agricultural Training Institute
ERI	Enabling Rural Innovation
CEFE	Economies through Formation of Entrepreneurs
SSE	Small-scale entrepreneurs
TAMUCO	Talisayon Multi-Purpose Cooperative
OPAG	Office of the Provincial Agriculturist
PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
IDOFS	Integrated Diversified Organic Farming Systems
RAMT	Rapid Appraisal Monitoring Tool
LAMPUFACO	Lumad sa Adgawan Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
MPC	Multi-Purpose Cooperative
PhilGEPS	Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System

MFI	Microfinance Institution
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
MMG	Medical Mission Group
SASMA	Saint Augustine Major Seminary
PTIEDO	Provincial Tourism, Investments & Enterprise Development Office
KIPO-KIPA	Korean Invention Promotion Association
MOCAF	Modified Cassava Flour
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IRR	Internal Rules and Regulations
CSO	Civil Society Organization
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
CRESENT	Catalysing Recovery of Special and Community Enterprises for Transformation
ISEA	Institute for Social Entrepreneurship for Asia
KLMPE	<i>Knowledge Learning Market and Policy Engagement</i>
ARDKPP	Agricultural and Rural Development Knowledge and Policy Platform
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
CARP	Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program
BRIN	Badan Riset dan Inovasi Nasional
MSU	Mindanao State University
EPAHP	Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty
PIME	project implementation monitoring and evaluation
LEATRA	"Learning Trajectory" (methodology)
CamboDHRRRA	Cambodian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (Asian Agri-Agency)
SALT	Sloping Agricultural Land Technology
NCFRS	National Coconut Farmers Registry System
RSBSA	Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture
ToT	Training of Trainers
ToL	Transfer of Learning
GAD	Gender and Assessment
UCCP	United Church of Christ of the Philippines

BFAR	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
MBO	Member based Organization
FO4ACP	Farmers' Organizations for the African, Caribbean and Pacific States
SEPOP	Service et Plaidoyer pour les Organisations Paysans
FO-RI	Farmers Organizations leading Research and Innovation in Agroecology
DIY	Do it yourself
NFO	National Farmers' Organization
PDC	Pecuaría Development Cooperative
LG	Landelijke Gilden
DISADECO	Diffun Saranay and Development Cooperative
FO4LA	Farmers' Organizations for Latin America
FFF	Forest and Farm Facility
UNDF	UN Decade of Family Farming
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
I-CARE	integrated climate adaptive and regenerative enterprise
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
AWPB	Annual Workplan and Budget
KM	Knowledge Management

Version 2 (21/03/2023), for submission to IFAD

Modifications: added list of acronyms and abbreviations.

The here presented information might be subject to corrections.

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Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia, Philippines

Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires, Belgium

Finnish Agri-Agency for Food and Forest Development, Finland

Trias, Belgium

UPA Développement International, Canada

We Effect, Sweden