



### Saving the Banana farms, Philippines-part of the global FO-RI programme

1. The main goal of the action is to foster a transition towards resilient, productive and sustainable agroecological food systems through farmer-led innovation and research.
2. Farmers organisations lead 13 Action Research initiatives in 17 countries around the world and advocacy actions at regional level in five zones.

In Africa (Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal, Cameroon, Burundi, RDC, Madagascar, Tanzania), in Asia (Philippines), in the Pacific (Fidji, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tonga), in the Caribbean (Haiti) and in Latin America (Brazil et Uruguay).

#### ACTION-RESEARCH

## Saving the Banana Farms through Agroecology in Mindanao, Philippines (Saving Bananas)

#### Overall objective

Build resiliency of 1,000 banana farmers from production risks such as pests, climate, and other hazards.

#### Context

Banana plantations in Mindanao have been damaged by a virulent soil fungus called the *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. Tropical Race 4 (TR4). Farms affected have been using monocrops, conventional systems that intensively use pesticides, contribute to large-scale diversity loss, and pollution that harms communities and ecosystems. The project will conduct participatory action research to combat the disease by applying agroecological (AE) principles.

#### Target

1,097 small farmers.

#### Monitoring system

Initially, local farmers will assess the factors affecting TR4 and social gender and equity issues related to farm management. Results will then be used to develop plans for AE trials and addressing social issues in farming. The project team will work with farmers' organizations in implementing the plans. Progress will be documented by the farmers. They will assess the outcomes and reflect on lessons in an iterative process.

### Main implementing partners

#### WE EFFECT

We Effect was established in 1958 by a group of cooperatives in Sweden. As a development organization, We Effect facilitates the organizing and strengthening of member-based organizations composed of women and men living in poverty so that they will have capacities to claim the rights and meet the needs of their members.

We Effect works in more than 20 countries in partnership with local civil society organizations applying the human rights-based approach in pursuing the vision of a just and sustainable world, free from poverty. The 2023-2027 strategy of We Effect is anchored on advancing the right to food through climate justice and gender transformative approaches.

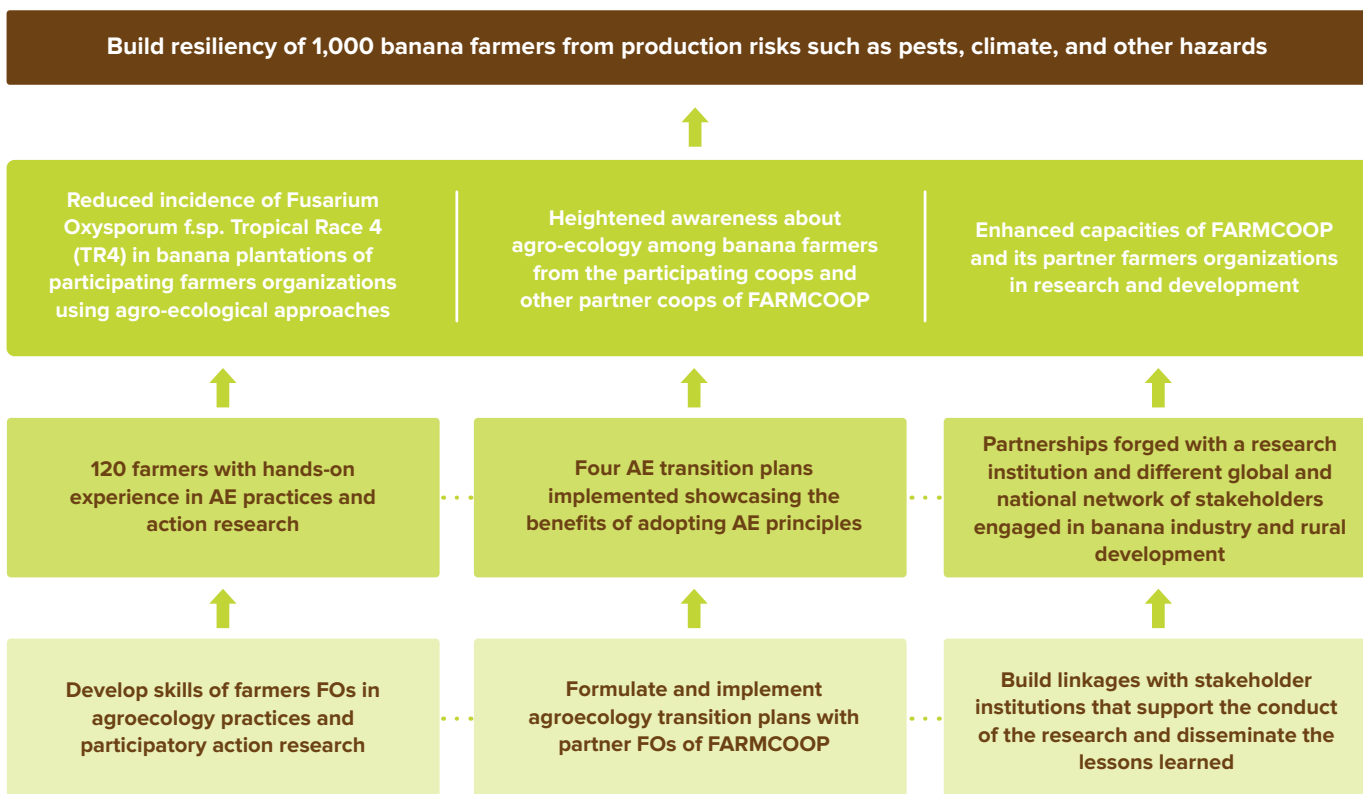


#### FARMCOOP (Foundation for Agrarian Cooperatives in Mindanao)

FARMCOOP is a grassroots not-for-profit organization that organizes and provides services to small family farmers' cooperatives in building resilient communities through sustainable agri-based enterprise and cooperative effort.

Since 1995, FARMCOOP has served over 6,000 farmers in more than 20 cooperatives and associations of agrarian reform beneficiaries, small-scale farmers, and indigenous peoples. FARMCOOP operates on the belief that farmers' cooperatives have a special role in society as effective vehicles in empowering their communities towards holistic development. In this project, FARMCOOP will work with its partner farmers cooperatives.

**Intervention logic and expected results**



**Areas of intervention**

Province of Davao del Norte, Davao Region  
Southern Mindanao, Philippines



**Starting date and duration**

The project started in 2022 and lasts 48 months.

**Budget**

€ 656.250

**Contacts**

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**Technical and financial partners**

**AGRICORD**

