



Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

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Trip Report: Indonesia and Vietnam 3-6 April 2009; 20-24 May 2009

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Purposes of Trip: (1) to meet with economists/sociologists in SANREM project sites in Indonesia and Vietnam to learn about the socio-economics research;
(2) to develop outline of a regional paper on the economics of VAF together with the scientists in the Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam;
(3) to discuss the economic analysis that will be done in the country papers;
and
(4) to visit project site in Vietnam for a better perspective of the socio-economic conditions in the area.

Sites Visited: Indonesia – World Agroforestry Center – ICRAF, Bogor Regency, West Java; project sites in Nanggung Subdistrict; and Bogor Agricultural University (BAU/IPB).

Vietnam – Meeting in Nong Lam University (NLU), Ho Chi Minh; project sites in Nghia Trung Commune, Binh Phouc Province.

Description of activities:

Indonesia: The meetings with the project team gave enough information on the extent of the economic analysis that can be done at this time. It was agreed that we will use the data from the experiments, and as much as it can be possible, to quantify the external effects of the VAF system, and to work with the forestry economists if possible for the economic analysis of the perennials included in the VAF system. The outline for the regional paper was drafted and circulated among the economics and socio teams of the three countries under study- Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia. The outline of the country papers for the economics portion was also drafted.

Vietnam: The meeting with the team was again very productive and helpful as we design the economics portion of the regional report. We were able to know the VAF system which was

quite different from the Indonesia and the Philippines as the intervention was cacao under cashew, two perennials. During the field trip, we were able to talk to two farmer partners and the local government executives of the study site. It was observed that the cashew farmers are actually quite progressive given that they are market oriented. The infrastructure was also good for the market links. Subsidies were given by the government to the people to settle and plant cashew in this area. It will be interesting to understand the economics of this system, vis a vis the VAF of the other two countries.

Lists of Contacts Made:

Indonesia. Suseno Budidarsono, Bambang S. Purwoko, Arif Rahmanulloh and James M. Roshetko (ICRAF-Indonesia staff); Anas D. Susila (Indonesia Site Coordinator) and Tisna Prasetyo (IPB/BAU faculty).

Vietnam. NLU Faculty: Dang Thanh Ha (Vietnam Site Coordinator), Trang Thi Huy Nhat.