



## Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

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### Trip Report: Philippines 15-21 May 2006

**Manuel C. Palada, World Vegetable Center (AVRDC)  
and Manuel Reyes, North Carolina A & T**

**Purposes of Trip:** (1) To hold the Philippines program kick-off workshop for the SE Asia SANREM CRSP project (TMPEGS). (2) To visit prospective project sites and hold meetings with the local farmers, village officials and other stakeholders to discuss the project objectives. (3) To discuss the workplan for implementing the project and the role of each team member from collaborating institutions.

**Names of Travelers:** Manuel Reyes, North Carolina A&T State University, and Manuel Palada, AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center, were the international travelers. Other travelers include host country collaborators represented by regional ICRAF office in the Philippines, University of the Philippines at Los Banos, UP Open University, De La Salle University and Don Bosco Technical College.

**Sites Visited:** Binahon's Farm, Sungco, Lantapan, Bukidnon, and ICRAF Field Office, Lantapan, Bukidnon (15-18 May). Sungco village is the site for the project on Agroforestry and Sustainable Vegetable Production in Southeast Asia (Philippines).

**Description of activities, technical observations:** The kick-off workshop was well organized by ICRAF outreach field staff located in Lantapan, Bukidnon. First day activities included welcome and introduction of team members; review of the project objectives; updates from Virginia Tech and research grant protocols. This was followed by review of TMPEGS (Technology, Marketing, Policy, Environment/Economic, Gender and Scaling-up) and TOP (Targeting Outcomes of Program). The rest of morning and afternoon session was spent in presentation of workplan by each of the theme leaders in TMPEGS. Palada presented the general workplan for the technology emphasizing the vegetable component in agroforestry. Other components of technology include indigenous vegetables, drip irrigation, IPM and no-till. The Philippine team realized the importance of IPM and no-till (not considered in initial planning) and suggested inputs from expert team members. The team members also discussed the role of theme leaders and country coordinators. During the second day a meeting with stakeholders was held with the presence and participation from local farmers and local government officials. The project was presented and discussed in depth so that it is well

understood by stakeholders in terms of outcomes and impact. The open forum provided an opportunity to hear the relevance of the project to local problems related to agriculture and environment. The visit to two agroforestry farms in the afternoon gave us the opportunity to observe the various activities and potentials of an integrated agroforestry system.

**Progress in meeting objectives:** All the objectives listed above under “Purpose of Trip” were accomplished.

**Suggestions and Recommendations (as appropriate).** Under technology component, Palada will assist in the establishment of on-farm trials involving vegetable alley cropping during the early part of 2007.

**List of Contacts Made:** Paul Catalan, Don Bosco University; Jason Beebout, Graduate Student (UPLB); Regina Banalida, ICRAF; Jean Saludadez, UP Open University; Maria Elena Javier, De La Salle University, Victoria Espaldon, UPLB, Victor Ella, UPLB, Raul Margate, ICRAF, Delia Catacutan, ICRAF; Jasmin Agbon, USAID GEM Project, Narciso Rubio, Municipal Mayor, Victor Amoroso, Central Mindanao University, Henry Binahon, Farmer; Randy, Farmer; Mario Ramirez, USAID-ECOGOV Project.