



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

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### Trip Report: Philippines 12 – 18 July 2010

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**Purpose of Trip:** To introduce Gender and Technology Network Cross-Cutting Research Activities (CCRAs); build gender awareness among the local site teams; initiate research on gender with focus on crop-livestock interaction; and to explore possibility of having US SANREM student carry out research in the Philippines with the SE Asia SANREM team.

**Sites Visited:** Upper Villages (Poblacion, Tamboboan, Sta. Cruz, and Lanise) and Lower Villages (Rizal, Hinaplanan, Anei, Madaguing) of Claveria, Misamis Oriental, Mindanao

#### **Description of Activities**

The Gender CCRA PI introduced the gender and the networks CCRAs to the research teams and carried out activities with farmers from upper and lower Claveria villages over two days. The teams were trained in participatory methodologies as well as the specific exercises used for the two CCRAs using the Gender Dimensions Framework to structure the exercises. Data was gathered through these exercises, including a list of resources required for agricultural production and their source, the activities carried out by each gender, the resources accessed and controlled by women and men, and perceptions of soil quality. The three components of CAPS were presented and discussed with farmers. Farmer input led to a reorientation of the focus from crop-livestock “competition” to “integration” and plans were made for future research in this area. The visit served to introduce gender research and gender equity requirements for SANREM to the team. It was the first time that the field staff was exposed to gender training, and they felt satisfied and clear on how to integrate gender in SANREM research. The visit was important for team-building and planning gender research with Helen Dayo and Caroline Duque. The printed materials provide by the PI were found to be very useful for guiding future field exercises and integrating gender in SANREM CRSP.

The meeting with Helen Dayo and discussion of the CCRA and her work in the Gender Center was promising for building collaboration. Dayo’s thesis was in economic anthropology and

targeted the overlap between production and reproduction with weaving hats for school allowance. She has MSc and PhD students under her supervision and would be willing to supervise a student of mine or advice for work in Philippines. She is very optimistic about gender research possibilities in the project given the Lead-PI's (Manny) enthusiasm about the topic. She says he has realized the importance of including women and gender issues in technical projects and brought her in from the beginning. Meeting with Philippines PI Victor Ella was delayed due to typhoon and conflicting schedules but took place nonetheless and served to introduce the two CCRA. Helen was an excellent facilitator.

Caroline (Yuyen) Duque had accompanied Elena Javier to sites with women's groups in the previous SANREM phase but this phase she will be directly involved for the first time. Previously she had been in charge of convoking groups and translating; now she will be working with Helen and Victor in the field. It is her first ever involvement with gender project and she was excited to be introduced to the concepts and field exercises. She was an excellent and creative facilitator and contributed to the workshops with the farmers by providing new visual aids.

The fact that the participants understood English (when spoken slowly) reduced the time spent on each activity and allowed the day to run more smoothly. The skill and connection with the community of the translators made it easy for the participants to feel comfortable responding in their own language even with the PI speaking in English throughout the workshops. Other factors in the success of the field work were the staff's education and experience with NGO/development work and their being clear on how to integrate gender into participatory tools with which they are already familiar.

The socio-economic activity chart and other gender research techniques used revealed the greatest gender equity of all SANREM sites visited by the Gender CCRA PI thus far. Nonetheless, the two sites showed significant differences. In the lower villages, women carried out most of the activities (household, farming/agriculture, and community). This was a surprise to the group which had presented itself as one of full equality between men and women, and lead to animated discussion. Both men and women in the two field sites agreed that women and men consult with their spouse about animal assets and, for instance, decide when to sell chicken together. Men and women were noted to have access to, control of, and provide the labor for poultry production. Unlike many other sites, this meant that men as well as women worked in the space just outside the home—the garden or patio. There was complementarity in other tasks as well, such as in the use of pesticides where women read men the instructions and men mixed them. Farmers said that women are to ones who go to the bank as “men are shy to borrow money.” Men claimed to wash clothes as well as carrying out other domestic tasks, though this was in the exceptional case of when women had just given birth. The exercise showed among other things that the activity chart is a relatively crude instrument unless time is taken to understand the detail of men and women's roles within each particular activity rather than simply concluding that men do X and women do Y. There was a long argument over who collects the water, with the group concluding that women collect water for cooking and men for drinking. The rapid assessment undertaken with this and other instruments during this trip should lead to more detailed interviews and survey questions later. The issue of water and fuel collection deserves further attention. The team concluded that it was very useful to begin the work with the

farmers using this activity as it helped women and men see how much women contribute in all spheres and also to value the hidden labor in the reproductive sphere.

Farmers enjoyed drawing their resource map. Religion figured prominently in both men and women’s maps, with multiple churches appearing. Asked if these were assets linked to agricultural production, they replied that they were above all others: “If we do not pray, what would happen to our crops?” One man pointed out that since all pastors and church leaders were men, and all resources are from God, men are in control of the resources.

One participant in the Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was a young seminarian who was interested in learning participative activities and will be interacting with many communities in the future. He had never met a foreigner, he said, and was very excited to do so. SANREM’s influence can be unexpected and hard to measure.

The gender roles and timeline was a useful exercise. It had been used before by the members of the SANREM team but not from a gender perspective; this time it showed how women gained or lost from changes. It reflected women’s awareness of political rights women have today (“women can rule the government”) but also that women controlled the budget and “kept the money of her husband” before. Note that despite the perception of women controlling the budget, the money was still considered the husband’s. All agreed that before women worked mostly in the home and that today they were engaged in income-earning activities outside the home. They said that before women “can’t share ideas-need men to execute their ideas.” Women said more about policy and legal rights. It was clear that women are interested in change—and opportunities that can improve their lives.

The soils exercises revealed that men had more technical information about farming and had had the most access to training. Both men and women described the soil in terms of color and texture.

The resource generator activity showed an array of sources of key resources, including government projects, the private sector and family and neighbors. See below for chart developed in Upper Villages of Claveria (Poblacion, Tamboboan, Sta. Cruz and Lanise):

<b>RESOURCES</b>	<b>FROM WHO</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loan – bank – financiers</li> <li>• Lending companies, self-financing</li> <li>• Government loans</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pesticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural supply stores</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seed companies/stores</li> <li>• Farmers (buy or trade)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inherited, government (Agrarian Reform Policy), bought, rented from big landowners, squatting (abandoned lands)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals (carabao, cow, horse)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owned, alima (caretaker), rented</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hired labor, family labor</li> </ul>

RESOURCES	FROM WHO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fertilizer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inorganic</li> <li>Organic (vermicast, chicken dung, goat dung, pig dung)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural supply (store)</li> <li>Produced by farmers buy from farmers/agricultural supply stores</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rain water catchment, irrigation</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post harvest facilities (drier-solar, chemical)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government projects, privately-owned, cooperatives</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipment – plow, harrow, tractor, sprayer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Borrow from neighbors</li> <li>Government projects, rented, privately-owned</li> </ul>

While the full day workshop with the whole SANREM team had been canceled due to the typhoon delaying the activities by a day, the gender team was interested in and held a half-day workshop on the final day. This served as an opportunity to process the field activities. The workshop served to clarify SANREM's gender equity requirements and expectations.

### **Training Activities Conducted:**

Program type (workshop, seminar, field day, short course, etc.)	Date	Audience	Number of Participants		Training Provider (US university, host country institution, etc.)	Training Objective
			Men	Women		
Workshop/Focus Group Activities	7/15/10	Farmers, IP leaders, policy-makers, researchers from BARANGAY Ane-I Hinaplanan, and Madaguang Bug-ong Rizal (Phillipines)	8	13	Virginia Tech (CCRA PI) and SE Asia team UPLB ICRAF-LFPI	Train partners and collaborators in use of participatory techniques addressing gender issues; provide farmers (especially women) with opportunities and skills in map –making, self-reflection and presentations
Workshop/Focus Group Activities	7/16/10	Farmers, IP leaders, policy-makers, researchers in Tamboboan, Santa Cruz, Lanise (Phillipines)	11	19	US team(Christie)	Train partners and collaborators in use of participatory techniques addressing gender issues; provide farmers (especially women) with opportunities and skills in map –making, self-reflection and presentations

### **Suggestions and Recommendations:**

The Philippines team provided excellent, detailed write-ups of all exercises in both sites (including local language and translation for descriptors). The farmers' knowledge of English and high level of interest in the project, as well as the team's support at all levels from PI to field staff makes this site an ideal one for future gender research.

Farmers were puzzled at the term “crop-livestock competition” that guided the FGD and suggested it be “crop-livestock integration.” This made clear that the assumption underlying the gender CCRA based on observations in Mali were not appropriate for many (if not all) settings. The research approach was changed as a result and now aims at a more neutral approach to “crop-livestock interaction.”

The gender team has an opportunity to carry out a study on gendered aspects of access to and control over chickens and manure, linked to soils knowledge. Caroline Duque will lead the effort, supported by Helen Dayo and Maria Elisa. The team should focus on the Philippines and then seek to replicate the study in Cambodia after the methodology has been tested. The Gender CCRA proposes to send a student to the site in the summer of 2011 to work on this. The study would focus on chickens, looking at gendered space and assets linked to cover crops and manure for soil fertility. It should consider women’s choice of cover crops.

SANREM should build on the gender-based opportunity that women appear more interested in change and opportunities that can improve their lives. They may be more receptive to CAPS for this reason; at the same time the finding that women had less access to technical information makes clear that including more women in the trainings will be necessary to tap this potential. In this site, it does not appear that women-only trainings would be required to encourage women, as they seemed very comfortable in mixed-gender sessions and were not afraid to speak their minds in front of men. However, it is still recommended that any training activities provide space for women and men to work in small same-gender groups before coming back together as one mixed-gender group.

Soils perceptions methodology in particular must be systematized before gathering any cross-regional data. Language is critical in this and thus it is important to train the teams including the interpreter. The workshop in the field with just the team, before the FGD and activities with the farmers began was useful and led to the best perceptions data. Also, the skills of the local team with facilitation and use of visuals made the field days successful.

**List of Contacts Made:**

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
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### **Itinerary**

- 12<sup>th</sup> July Depart Blacksburg
- 13<sup>th</sup> Arrive in Manila (during typhoon!)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Travel to Cagayan de Oro; meet with Helen Dayo, Director UPLB Gender Center  
½ day workshop with partners planned for this day was cancelled due to Christie and Dayo travel delays caused by typhoon
- 15<sup>th</sup> Brief training with SANREM team at field site prior to work with farmers to go over the activities for the day.  
Full day of Focus Group Discussion and activities with farmers from lower villages of Claveria (Rizal, Anei, Patrocinio, Madaguing, Cabacungan and Hinaplanan); some SANREM farmer-cooperators and others not. The venue is Mercado's Agroforestry Farm, Bug-ong, Rizal.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Full day of Focus Group Discussion and activities with farmers from upper villages of Claveria (Poblacion, Tamboboan, Luna and Lanise). The venue is at Tamboboan Village Hall.  
Brief meeting with country coordinator, Vic Bella
- 17<sup>th</sup> Gender team workshop and meeting (ME Christie, Helen Dayo, Caroline Duque)  
Depart for Indonesia