



Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

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Quarterly Report for April 1, 2006 to June 30, 2006

The SANREM CRSP held its first full Annual Meeting (18-20 April 2006) involving System Coordinators, Bridging PIs, and PIs from the five SANREM CRSP Long-Term Research (LTR) activity teams. Over 50 SANREM partners participated in the meeting. Since the meeting, LTR PIs activity has picked up speed. All long-term research activities are currently underway and project personnel are working with host country partners to implement the long-term research activities. US scientists visited almost all of the host country research sites during the last quarter. A cross-cutting initiative in watershed modeling and remote sensing was also discussed and proposed by the long-term research activities. This activity is currently being planned and will be presented to the technical committee for review and approval.

Over 100 agricultural and environmental scientists and development specialists benefited from practical and constructive discussions at the Biodiversity Conservation in Agriculture Symposium hosted by the SANREM CRSP and IPM CRSP Management Entities at Punta Cana, Dominican Republic (31 May-2 June 2006). Topics explored included the importance of biodiversity and its role in ecosystem services, how biodiversity conservation can be integrated into agricultural development activities and how agricultural development projects can be designed to meet USAID Biodiversity Conservation Earmark requirements.

System Coordinators met to discuss progress in developing chapters for the SANREM CRSP Systems Book and contributing to the SANREM Knowledge Base with information resources relevant to their systems. After an initial review of Part I chapters, some gaps were identified and two additional chapters included in the outline. System Coordinators have begun preparation of their case study chapters. The SANREM Knowledge Base (<http://www.ext.vt.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/SANREM.woa>) is continuing to expand. Bridging Activity research are in the process of concluding.

Other highlights:

The SANREM-Andes Bridging Activity of Dr. Rhoades was featured in a series of radio programs on NPR. A 15-minute special on "Living on Earth" aired on 17 April 2006. These programs describe the social and environmental impacts of glacier retreat in the Andes.

Three host country and 10 US graduate students and 1 host country and 3 US undergraduate students have been supported this year by system coordination, bridging, and planning activities. Bridging Award PIs have been publishing articles and chapters, as well as making presentations at various venues. Weekly meetings are being held with the IPM CRSP to share lessons learned, coordinate, search for synergy and approaches to solutions for common problems.

April 1 – June 30, 2006 Accomplishments and Milestones

Date	Accomplishments
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SANREM CRSP Website continually renewed • Quarterly Report submitted to USAID • TraiNet System approved AVRDC scientist (Reyes Project) to attend Annual Meeting • First Annual Meeting held with the five Long-Term Research Award Teams, Bridging Award PIs, and System Coordinators • Collaboration and synergies initiated between LTR PIs and with System Coordinators



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Committee met, discussed, and recommended membership qualifications and duties. • Draft Systems book chapters presented, discussed and overall book approach refined. • Biodiversity Symposium speakers contacted and arrangements made for their participation¹ • Field work initiated in the Forestry Governance – Ostrom Project (LTR-1), the Andean Livelihoods – Valdivia Project (LTR-4), and the Vegetable AgroForestry in Asia – Reyes Project (LTR-5) • Twenty LTR-4 PIs from (US, Peru, and Bolivia) held a workshop for collaborative planning activities in La Paz, Bolivia and later held a Stakeholders Meeting, 23-29 April 2006
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised Outline and Approach for Systems Book circulated and work begun on the case study chapters. • System Coordinators begin work on development of case studies for System book • Articles on Payment for Environmental Services and small holder coffee production submitted for publication • Three of four National Advisory Councils have been established by the Forestry Governance – Ostrom Project (LTR-1) • LTR-1 Poverty Environment Network studies have been initiated in Bolivia • Vegetable AgroForestry Asia – Reyes Project (LTR-5) met with stakeholders and visited USAID Mission partners in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines. • LTR-5 initiated their baseline survey in Indonesia and drafted questionnaire for Vietnam and the Philippines • LTR-5 experimental plots established at Nghia Trung in Vietnam • LTR-5 is preparing gender baseline surveys for Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines • Metadata on critical SANREM information resources continues to be entered into the SKB • System Coordinators reviewing materials for case study analyses • Economic analysis presented at Annual Meeting of World Cocoa Foundation • Logistical arrangements finalized for Biodiversity Symposium¹ • Program Director and Associate participated in CRSP Council Meeting • Biodiversity Conservation Symposium successfully brought to fruition, May 30 – June 2, 2006¹
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SANREM Knowledge-Base Metadata Handbook under revision • Zambian Biodiversity Conservation – Travis Project (LTR-2) research teams are working on site and workshops have been organized • LTR-2 food product safety innovations have been introduced to the production process at the Lundazi CTC • LTR-2 trainer selection has been modified to assure increased information transfer to female farmers, consequently increasing the number of women trainers • LTR-2 village scouts have been trained for multi-species ground surveys to determine COMACO impacts on biodiversity • The Andean Watershed – Alwang Project (LTR-3) collected soil samples, macro-vertebrate biodiversity samples, and other information for watershed modeling • Andean Livelihoods – Valdivia Project (LTR-4) initiated their Baseline Assessment of Community Household and Individual Livelihoods and Production Systems • LTR-4 set up a weather station for climate data collection in Ancoraimes, Bolivia • Forestry Governance – Ostrom Project (LTR-1) held its coordination meeting at the International Association for the Study of Common Property Conference in Bali, Indonesia • New SANREM Gender Equity Coordinator (Maria Elisa Christie) joins Management Entity • Keywords for Spanish language resources in the SKB documented • ME staff met with Vegetable AgroForestry – Reyes Project (LTR-5) accounting team at North Carolina A&T to fine tune their sub-award management system • Three female students from University of Chapingo (Mexico) have begun 3-month sustainable agriculture training program at the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (NC State) • 50 participants attended SANREM workshop on watershed management in Ecuador (26 June) • Last minute modifications in international travel were approved

¹ In cooperation with IPM CRSP.

Significant issues encountered and addressed

- Several SANREM CRSP partners (particularly with respect to survey research components) are passing through their university's Human Subjects Research Review Boards before this research can be fully implemented. This process does not appear to be creating any serious delay in project implementation but is another factor required for project initiation.
- Processing visas for non-US participants to attend the SANREM CRSP Annual Meeting went smoothly in some cases and not so in others. The TraiNet System although technical recognizing non-training related travel for non-US SANREM CRSP PIs, does not process them differently than trainees from the host country. This created a major problem for one of our AVRDC partners (a Pakistani national working at AVRDC in Taiwan) and forced an Ecuadorian site coordinator to pass an unnecessary English proficiency exam. As the TraiNet System continues to mature it improves functioning in some respects, but reinforces unnecessary rigidities in others that will negatively impact the quality and cost of USAID programming without providing additional security. Food safety training for Zambians has been re-programmed due to TraiNet restrictions.

Key Milestones for the Next Quarter

July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit Quarterly Report to USAID• LTR Teams fully engaged in establishing research programs and baseline data collection systems• Presentation of papers based on Systems book at World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists• SANREM CRSP Systems Book chapters continue revision and case study research being conducted• Incremental funding request and revision Virginia Tech cost share commitment in Cooperative Agreement authorized• POP Manual revisions based on Annual Meeting discussions and TC recommendations submitted to Board of Directors for approval
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New SANREM CRSP Newsletter• Presentation of papers based on Systems book at Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting and World Congress of Sociology• Four new SANREM CRSP Research Briefs• LTR Work Plans submitted for review to the ME (15 August 2006)• Second draft of system chapters for Systems book submitted for review (15 August 2006)• SANREM CRSP Board of Directors Meeting• Initiate Payment for Environmental Services Associate Award activities
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long-Term Research Work Plans approved for FY 2007• Solicit annual reports from partners• First draft of case study chapters for Systems book submitted for review (15 September 2006)• Begin preparation of FY 2006 SANREM CRSP Annual Report

Respectfully Submitted,



Theo Dillaha, Program Director SANREM CRSP