



BAR reviews 19 fishery-based CPAR projects

photo by Nicanor Del Rosario III

The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), being the overall coordinating agency for fisheries research and development (R&D) in the country, conducted the "Fisheries R&D Review" on 25-28 July 2007 at Bonuan-Binloc, Dagupan City.

The three-day review aims to assess the accomplishments of fishery-based Community-based Participatory Action Research (CPAR) projects funded and supported by the Bureau. The activity was also conducted to determine the necessary information critical to planning of future activities for the fisheries sector.

Opening the program was BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar welcoming the participants from the regional offices of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), managers of the Regional Fisheries Research and Development Centers (RFRDC), project leaders, implementers, and coordinators.

In his speech, Director Eleazar explained the need to assess whether the projects that were implemented have indeed created an impact in uplifting the lives of the marginalized fisherfolk. This was followed by a message from Dr. Westly R. Rosario, director of the National Fisheries Research and

Development Institute (NFRDI), who gave a brief history from how the Institute started to what it is now. He also lauded the urgent response of BAR towards the need to conduct relevant collaborative projects to best serve the fishery community.

The program proper started with Ms. Ligaya Santos, head of the Fisheries Section of BAR's Regional Coordination Division (RCD), giving the review mechanics, and introduction of the evaluators and participants.

The panel of evaluators included Dr. Cesario R. Pagdilao, deputy executive director of the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development (PCAMRD), Dr. Catalino R. dela Cruz, BAR consultant for fisheries, Dr. Carmencita V. Kagaoan, head of BAR's Programs Development



BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar opens the program.

Division (PDD), and Ms. Ma. Elena M. Garces of BAR's Technology Commercialization Unit (TCU).

A total of 19 BAR-funded fishery projects were presented for review. Managers of RFRDCs presented the projects from their respective regions. After each presentation, the evaluators gave their comments and suggestions.

Dr. Pagdilao asked the project implementors to ensure that their protocols should be sound and valid. He suggested that project implementors checked other researches conducted in other agencies so that they may apply it in their areas.

For the projects on seaweeds, Dr. Pagdilao suggested using different varieties as treatments rather than just comparing farmers practice with the new technology (using only one or two varieties). He also noted, along with Dr. dela Cruz, that most of the projects being implemented does not really comply with the guidelines used in implementing CPAR. Thus, some of the projects

turn to page 8

DA prepares action plans for next semester; reviews 2nd quarter/1st semester accomplishments

The Department of Agriculture (DA) conducted its 2nd Quarter and 1st Semester Ginintuang Masagang Ani (GMA) Programs Performance Review on 26-27 July 2007 at the Bureau of Soils and Water Management System (BSWM), Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

Officially starting the event was OIC-Regional Executive Director (RED) of DA-RFU IV Abelardo R. Bragas who welcomed the participants. For the next

scheduled review, it was suggested to conduct the review either in Visayas or in Mindanao.

Undersecretary for Operations Jesus Emmanuel M. Paras delivered a message in behalf of DA Secretary Arthur C. Yap. He mentioned the need for an action plan coming from the different GMA banner programs representatives in preparation of the weather changes experienced by the country today.

Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Undersecretary

turn to page 5

In this issue...

BAR reviews 19 fishery-based CPAR projects.....	1
DA prepares action plans for next semester.....	1
ACEF to boost agriculture and fisheries development.....	2
New PAC president pays 'Sweet' visit to BAR.....	3
Going forward with PA2020, pasture and ruminants.....	4
CourseLab Program in OPAPA's 2nd phase.....	4
Experts convene for national consultation.....	5
Biogenics/Proteomics: New trend in 21st biotech.....	6



The official monthly publication of DA-BAR

RITA T. DELA CRUZ
managing editor/layout

ANDREA B. AGILLON, PhD
ALEXANDER G. ARIZABAL
MARLOWE U. AQUINO, PhD
RITA T. DELA CRUZ
MA. ELOISA E. HERNANDEZ
ELLAINE GRACE L. NAGPALA
writers

RICARDO G. BERNARDO
print manager

JULIA A. LAPITAN
VICTORIA G. RAMOS
circulation

MANUEL F. BONIFACIO, PhD
editorial consultant

MARLOWE U. AQUINO, PhD
head, MISD

NICOMEDES P. ELEAZAR, CESO IV
adviser

BAR Chronicle is the official monthly publication of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) of the Department of Agriculture (DA), which is mandated to ensure that all agricultural research is coordinated and undertaken for maximum utility to agriculture.

This publication provides regular updates on BAR's activities as the country's national coordinator for agriculture and fisheries R&D; and highlights features and news articles concerning NaRDSAF-member institutions.

For subscription and inquiries please contact:

Applied Communication Section
Management Information and Systems
Division (MISD)
Bureau of Agricultural Research
Department of Agriculture
3/F RDMIC Bldg., Visayas Ave.
cor. Elliptical Rd., Diliman
Quezon City 1104

Tel. nos: 928-8505 local 2043-2044
Fax: 927-5791 or 927-0227
E-mail: misd-ac@bar.gov.ph

Articles are also available online.
Please visit <http://www.bar.gov.ph>

Articles may be reprinted with permission
from the management.

ACEF to boost agriculture and fisheries development

Agriculture and fisheries development in the country is getting another boost towards modernization and globalization through the Agriculture Competitive Enhancement Fund (ACEF). ACEF is a government instituted measure to increase the agricultural sector's productivity and enabling it to achieve higher levels of competitiveness.

The ACEF refers to a special purpose fund created by Republic Act No. 8178, "Agricultural Tariffication Act" out of the proceeds of the in-quota Minimum Access Volume (MAV) importations to help the agricultural sector become globally competitive, viable, efficient and sustainable. More specifically, ACEF's main goal is to support the national economy for the distribution of opportunities, income and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key in raising the quality of life for all especially the underprivileged.

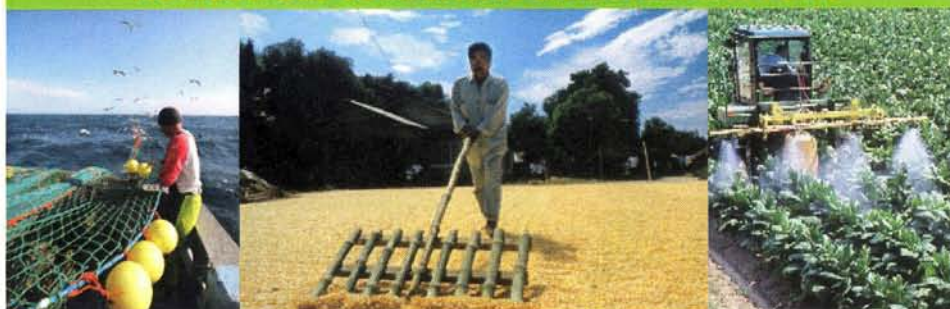
In addition, ACEF is intended to finance projects and activities that will help enhance the competitiveness of the agriculture and fisheries sectors. The fund shall be specifically used for the capital outlay (CO) expenditure and maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE) requirements of projects and for public investment. The minimum amount of ACEF assistance is Three Million Pesos (Php 3,000,000.00). A maximum amount may be set by the ACEF Executive Committee (Execom) with the technical assistance of the Program

Development Service (PDS) of the Department of Agriculture (DA).

ACEF is also open to all entities and organizations with desire to support and improve the condition of the agriculture and fisheries sectors. These are the local government units (LGU), state universities and colleges (SUCs), DA units from staff bureaus, regional field units including the regional integrated agricultural research center (RIARC) and regional fisheries research and development center (RFRDC), attached agencies and controlled corporations, office of the secretary's service units and programs, and the general public. It is a must that these entities should adhere to the requirements set by the national technical committee (NTC) and national technical secretariat (NTS). In the case of R&D projects and programs, these will be aligned with the institutional development grant (IDG) guidelines and will be subjected to technical evaluation by the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) and will be endorsed to the NTS/NTC of the DA-PDS for approval. The submitted R&D IDG projects to BAR must be within the research institutions' and/or agencies on infrastructure, facilities and equipment general master plan. Only then, DA could realize the ACEF support will be fully utilized in making the sector globally-responsive and competitive.

Details and project support guidelines can be obtained from these documents, namely: DA Administrative Order # 08, Series of 2006 and DA Administrative Order #23, Series of 2007 with their corresponding implementing guidelines on ACEF utilization. (Marlowe U. Aquino, PhD)

AGRICULTURE COMPETITIVE ENHANCEMENT FUND



New PAC president pays "Sweet" visit to BAR



Newly-appointed PAC President Honorio M. Soriano, Jr. (2nd from left) and PAC Vice-President for Administrative, Business and Financial Affairs Benjamin C. Galang (left) pose with BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar and Asst. Dir. Teodoro S. Solsoloy during their visit at the Bureau. Also in the picture is Aglibut Sweet, a sweet tamarind variety developed by PAC.

photos by Rita T. dela Cruz



PAC's Aglibut Sweet planted in front of the RDMIC Building, Visayas Avenue, cor. Elliptical Rd., Diliman, QC.

From being a professor and concurrent vice president for Administrative and Financial Services at the Tarlac College of Agriculture (TAC), Dr. Honorio M. Soriano, Jr. is now the 5th president of the Pampanga Agricultural College (PAC).

This was made official through an oath taking ceremony led by the chair of the Board of Trustees (BOT) and Commission on Higher Education (CHED) commissioner, Dr. Carlito S. Puno on 18 July 2007 at CHED Main Office, Pasig City.

Five days after the oath taking, the official turnover ceremony was conducted on 23 July 2007 at PAC, with outgoing PAC President Zosimo M. Battad, handing over the torch to his successor.

Dr. Battad served the post for nine years (1999-2007). He was well noted for being instrumental in leading the drive towards the rebuilding of PAC's image and elevation of its status as one of the leading institutions in Central Luzon in the field of agriculture and related sciences.

Dr. Soriano is a native of Anao, Cabagan, Isabela. He graduated from the Isabela State University (ISU) earning him a BS degree in

Forestry in 1976. He finished his PhD in Forestry, major in Silviculture, at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in 1991 as a PCARRD scholar.

Considered by many as a "man of God" being a self-proclaimed born-again Christian and head pastor of the Miracle Ministries International (MMI) and concurrently Director of MMI Learning Center, he said that, he would "bring miracles to PAC" during one of his public presentations as the newly-appointed PAC president.

His mission statement is anchored on Culture of Unity and Teamwork for Excellence or CUTE for short. He likewise believes in the famous words of John Sculley, "The future belongs to those who see possibilities before they become obvious."

He is married to former Ms. Marietta Cabauatan blessing them with three children: Marinor, Jay-Mar, and Gamaliel.

Dr. Soriano's sweet and short visit

On 16 August 2007, PAC President Soriano, Jr. paid visit to the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR). With him was PAC Vice President for Administrative, Business and Financial Affairs Benjamin C. Galang.

Welcoming them were BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar, Asst. Director Teodoro S. Solsoloy, and other BAR key officials.

BAR and PAC have a long and engaging institutional partnerships, supporting its R&D projects related to the development of Filipino farmers in the region.

In particular, the technology commercialization of now famous sweet tamarind "Aglibut Sweet" variety, the first Philippine S&T variety developed by PAC. The name was taken from a UPLB Professor Andres Aglibut who served as PAC consultant in the late 70s.

This project was initiated during the time of Dr. Battad who advocated and drew funding support for its commercialization and the upscaling of the variety.

The sweet tamarind variety has been approved by the National Seed Industry Council (NSIC), making it the first approved seed variety by PAC.

BAR provided grant to support the commercialization of the project, which was formally launched in 2006. (Rita T. dela Cruz)

Going forward with PA 2020, pasture and ruminants industry highlighted

The Pasture and Ruminants Industry Cluster presented to the public its draft strategic plan for discussion and finalization on 4 July 2007 at the Traders Hotel Manila. The final strategic plan for pasture and ruminants is to be included in the long term strategic for Philippine Agriculture 2020 (PA 2020).

PA 2020 is not only a strategy for the improvement of one sector but it is a holistic approach towards agricultural modernization by setting the stage for policy and action breakthroughs to produce a roadmap for the development of the country's agricultural sector through science and technology (S&T), research and development (R&D) which thereby hope to uplift and better the lives of our Filipino people.

The public presentation is part

of the D.L. Umali Lecture Series on PA 2020. The lecture series, named after the late Dr. Dioscoro L. Umali, a National Scientist, started in 1994. It aims to provide a venue for discussion on current issues and concerns on agriculture, environment, and other agri-related concerns, particularly those with impact on the plight of the marginalized farmers.

The series is annually-organized by the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) led by Dr. Emil Q. Javier and the D.L. Umali Foundation.

What the academy is trying to achieve is for this public presentation to be as participative, as interactive, and as collaborative as possible by involving the key players and stakeholders of the industry to respond to its problems and strategize

solutions. Thus, help engender the support decisions which needed for this strategic plan to be successfully implemented.

Attending the public presentation were major stakeholders in the pasture and ruminants industry including farmers, researchers/scientists, policymakers, representatives from the academe and key players in R&D and S&T.

Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary Arthur C. Yap and Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) Executive Director graced the occasion and gave their messages.

Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) Nicomedes P. Eleazar officially capped the occasion. (*Rita T. dela Cruz*)

CourseLab Program discussed in OPAPA's 2nd phase of e-Learning Program

The second in a series of training seminars towards the full implementation of the e-Learning program of the Open Academy for Philippine Agriculture (OPAPA) was conducted on 2-7 July 2007 at the ATI Training Center, Benguet State University La Trinidad, Benguet.

Sponsored by the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), the 'Training on Interactivity and Rich Media for e-Learning' aims to familiarize the participants in designing interactivity that would add value to self-directed web-based lessons.

In general, the second phase of the training was utilized to refine the e-Learning courses assigned to the different participating agencies and to migrate the e-Modules developed during the first phase of the training conducted earlier this year. e-Modules in the form of functional hypertext markup language (HTML) were produced during the first phase of the training and were translated in the form of CourseLab programs during the second phase.

The CourseLab program is an easy to use, e-Learning authoring system that offers programming free WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) environment for creating high-quality interactive e-learning content, which can be published on the internet Learning Management System (LMS), CD-ROMs,



photo courtesy of Julia A. Lapitan

ATI Director Asterio P. Saliot (center) poses with the participants of the OPAPA e-Learning Training Seminar in La Trinidad, Benguet.

and other interactive devices. Other feature of the CourseLab includes the use of rich media such as animations, and pop-up balloons.

A presentation and discussion on the topics on the functional use of rich media for e-Learning, animation for the web, fundamentals of interactivity, and the introduction to CourseLab were given by Mr. Jose Ray Y. Alo, Information and Communication Technology Consultant from the Food and Agriculture Organization. Exercises and workshops were also conducted to equip the participants with hands-on experience on the application of interactivity.

It is expected that through the training, enhanced web-based course modules on agriculture and fisheries technologies be produced.

The Bureau of Agricultural Research was represented in the training seminar by Ms. Julia Lapitan, assistant head of MISD; Ms. Apolonia Mendoza, research coordinator from RCD; and Ms. Rueth Cabral, programmer from MISD. The week long activity was also participated by the Philippine Council on Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) and from the regional offices of ATI in Regions 1, 2, 3, 10, CAR and CARAGA. (*Ellaine Grace L. Nagpala*)

BAR, PCARRD, BAFPS organize national consultation workshop on organic agri

ELLAINE GRACE L. NAGPALA

Experts from the different sectors convened for the 'National Consultation Workshop on Organic Agriculture S and T Framework and Specific RDE Program for 2007-2010' on 26-27 July 2007 at the Bulwagang Panday Karunungan, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development of Science and Technology (PCARRD), Los Baños, Laguna.

Organized and sponsored by the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS), and PCARRD, the two-day activity is a part of the implementation of Executive Order No. 481, otherwise known as the 'Promotion and Development of Organic Agriculture in the Philippines'.

The consultation workshop was attended by representatives from the different attached agencies and bureaus from the Department of Agriculture, state colleges and universities, private sectors, and regional consortia of PCARRD.

Presentations and framework validation

The morning of the first day of activity was consumed with paper presentations on the overview of organic agriculture in the Philippines and the organic agriculture roadmap. Topics on the organic aspect of soil fertility management, insect pest management, disease management, and ecological pest management were also taken. The market studies and linkages to the private sector and extension programs on organic agriculture and postharvest technologies for organic agriculture were likewise discussed. Moreover, the State-of-the-Art (SOA) of various organic commodities (vegetables, coffee, muscovado, rice, animal production) was also highlighted in the presentations.

In the afternoon, a framework validation with regards to the discussion output that transpired from roundtable discussion on the SOA and research, development, and extension gaps in organic agriculture last 4 July 2007 was validated for completion.

During the discussions, the issue

on the importance of organic certification was identified. The certification is an acknowledgement that such products have been produced according to the applicable organic production standards.

Meanwhile, the regional and national research and development (R&D) program for 2007-2010 of the different regional consortia of PCARRD was presented during the second day. The presentation and discussion of the R&D programs aims to identify the regional program components and identify possible implementing agencies, timeline for the program, and fund sources.

Organic Agri R&D

In general, the R&D program in organic agriculture is geared towards increasing the country's food production to feed the country's increasing population.

As defined by the International



photo by Ellaine Grace L. Nagpala

Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), organic agriculture includes all agricultural systems that promote environmentally, socially, and economically sound production of food and fibers. This includes the dramatic reduction of external inputs by refraining from the use of chemo-synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals.

As recognized in EO 481, the need to adopt an environment responsive agricultural production system made organic agriculture the front liner to address the problem on food scarcity.

DA prepares...from page 1

Graciano P. Yumul provided updates in the current weather condition. "There is a cause for concerns for that food and energy are related directly and indirectly to our weather now," USec. Yumul stressed.

On the first workshop proper, the different representatives from the GMA Rice, Corn, High Value Commercial Crops (HVCC), Livestock and Fisheries Programs were requested to identify the issues and concerns of the programs with a formulated remedial actions and recommendations. This was done per commodity as per reviewed 2nd quarter and 1st semester physical and financial accomplishment reconciled with the data from the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS).

The second day marked the presentation of the program performance of the various DA projects. Included were projects on: (1) irrigation; (2) farm-to-market; (3)

postharvest; (4) National Infrastructure Projects Monitoring Task Force (NIPMoTF) report; (5) Hunger mitigation covering the Gulayan ng Masa program, Barangay Food Terminal/Bagsakan/ Tindahan Natin/Market Access, Coconut intercropping and coconut-based agribusiness enterprises; (6) agribusiness lands; (7) biofuels; and the (8) export and credit performance.

One of the significant parts of the workshop was the discussion on Agricultural Issues Monitoring System (AIMS). This is deemed important in order to identify and effectively manage issues and concerns that may come from the RFUs, staff bureaus, attached agencies and other partner institutions of the Department. The issues will serve as catalyst in accelerating development. Timely and calibrated interventions shall prevent further emanation of worst cases or full-blown crises that may be experienced by the sector. (Ma. Eloisa E. Hernandez)

Biogenomics/Proteomics:

New trend in 21st biotech research

MARLOWE U. AQUINO, PHD

Obtaining news and information on latest trends and breakthroughs in research is one of the strong points a researcher should possess. Being in constant interaction and participation in national and international conferences and collaboration with the scientific communities, researchers must keep abreast with information and knowledge circulating worldwide. The information makes the difference in terms of direction, utilization and application. The newest is BIOGENOMICS (GE³LS) or simply Genomics which is probably the in-thing nowadays in recent scientific discoveries.

What is BioGenomics (GE³LS)?

One may think that this is a new area of research endeavor - true but again no, it is more an in-depth and focused research undertaking. Everybody may have heard of genes, the bits of information encoded in the DNA in cells, which control the physical makeup of all living things.

Genomics/proteomics or simply GE³LS, probably a less familiar term, is the study of genes or how they interact with each other and the environment. It is the hottest fields of scientific study in research institutions now, thanks to recent technological breakthroughs that have made it possible to map out in detail the genome - the complete genetic sequence of species from bacteria to humans.

GE³LS seems to be a mathematical or chemical formula derived from figures, facts and equations of some sort. Well, this is the shorthand for the study and awareness of ethical, economic, environmental, legal, and social issues related to genomics and proteomics. (Genes are blueprints for an organism's production of proteins; proteomics is the study of those proteins).

GE³LS Utilization, Impact and Application

GE³LS provides users with knowledge and tools to change the

makeup of plants, animals and even humans. These are powerful tools that enable researchers to think of its utilization and application or are these really needed? Given this concern, the public and governments must make sound choices because of the potential impact of genomics to society and the amount of investment required to do genomic research.

One of the pioneering researchers on GE³LS, Dr. Peter Philips, a political economist at the University of Saskatchewan, who is exploring GE³LS issues on two projects led by Genome Prairie, the North American Conditional Mouse Mutagenesis Project (NorCOMM - www.norcomm.org) and the Use of Genomics Tools for Crop Improvement in Temperate Climates (www.cropadaptationgenomics.ca) says that his main interest is "technological change." Genomics is an interesting microcosm of the problems of technological change. Dr Philips elaborated stated that "Partly because it's in a sense a general purpose technology: people are investigating genomes of plants, animals, microbes and humans." He further pointed out that "Genomics as a set of tools - gene sequencing, isolation of gene function and in some instance the engineering of specific genes of microorganisms - is a potential transformative technology. It could change the way people grow food, think about human health, the nature of environmental challenge and the options for addressing environmental hazards." Related with this endeavor is the work of Dr. Pammla Petrucka, an assistant professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan, who is working on a different angle - culture. She wants to ensure that genomics research is carried out in a manner that is "culturally competent and culturally safe."

Dr Petrucka emphasized that there is always a risk that researchers will assume that all cultures are the same, that they all have the same level of

understanding or the same concerns. If that proves not to be the case, then some of those cultures may be left out of the benefits that flow that research. It can be very difficult to get members of a

particular culture to be fully involved later if they're not included in the beginning. Like Dr. Philips and Dr. Petrucka and other researchers like Dr. Edna Eiensidel of the University of Calgary, they are now working on the social aspect of GE³LS and incorporating cultural consideration on the issue. As Dr. Philip pointed out, genomics could be a "transformative technology," one that could reshape the lives (and cultures) of people all over the world - but with great power comes great responsibility.

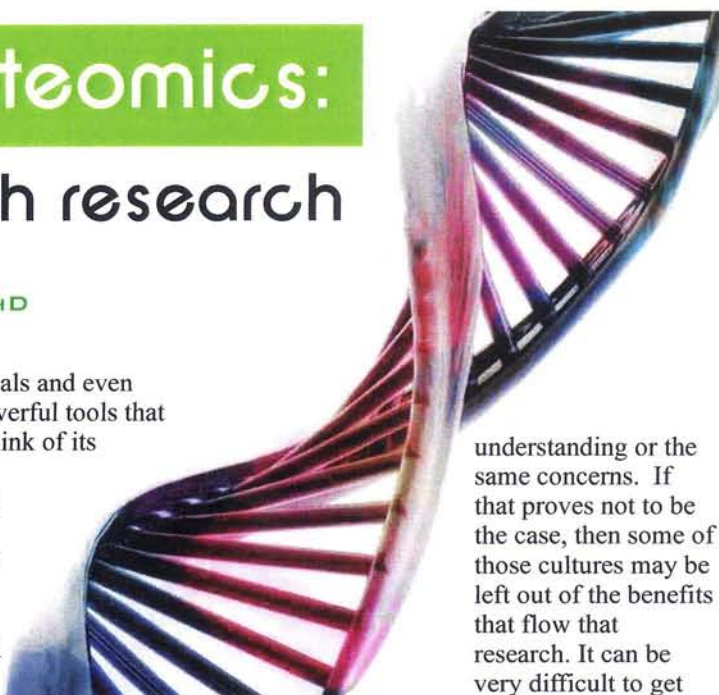
Promotion and GE³LS awareness

As we move closer to new heights of research endeavor, one cannot deny that we have a lot to discover and re-discover in scientific research. Through proper dissemination and promotion, new research undertakings like GE³LS must be known to the general public. Proper education and public outreach activities of research institutions, financial institutions and interest groups must study and analyze carefully the ethical, environmental, economic, legal and social issues related to genomics research. Only then we can say that considering these GE³LS issues the great power of genomics research can only be used with great responsibility - Dr. Philips.

Sources:

Saskatoon's BioEconomy: Science at its Best. E1 -E6. The Star Phoenix. 30 May 2007.

2007 Personal Interview with Dr. Edna Eiensidel, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. June 22, 2007
Aquino, MU 2007. Travel Report May 28-01 June 2007. Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences. University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada.



BAR's IP awareness training workshops: A review

ANDREA B. AGILLON, PhD

In the wake of an intense global competition and with every organization in urgent need to protect and to commercialize their intellectual assets, Intellectual Property (IP) management is becoming an inevitable tool in technological developments.

The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), being the Department of Agriculture (DA)'s overall coordinating agency for agriculture and fisheries research and development (R&D) realizes the importance of IP management since it is at the core of its tasks.

This means that IPs accruing from R&D projects particularly those from the National R&D System for Agriculture and Fisheries (NaRDSAF) must be properly evaluated and protected for the benefit of the researchers and the society. This ensures scientists/researchers of their rightful economic benefits from IPs that they have produced. Leading in this role is the Intellectual Property Rights Office (IPRO) of BAR.

The BAR's pursuit for protecting all the IPs generated by NaRDSAF and the DA System's scientists, creators, and innovators urged IPRO to develop its manpower for wider coverage in IP Management. It envisioned an IP enlightened critical mass for the R & D Networks and agencies in the country.

The DA system alone is composed of 16 regions for agriculture and the same number for fisheries. The DA Regions, specifically the Regional Integrated Agricultural Research Centers (RIARCs), lead the Regional RDE Networks composed of other DA and non-DA agencies, state universities and colleges (SUCs), local government units (LGUs), and some non-government organizations (NGOs). Additionally, there are DA bureaus and attached agencies with strong R& D components.

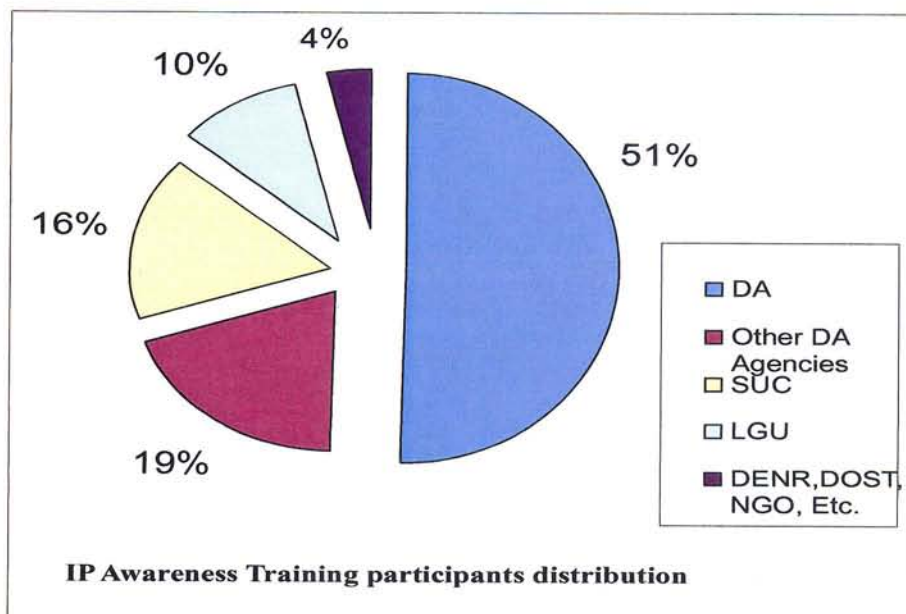
Scope of the trainings

BAR-IPRO has been coordinating and conducting IP Awareness Training Workshops since it started in 2004. Advocacy is a must to enlighten the researchers and IP

producers to value IP protection, and not to improperly disclose work prior to application.

IPR awareness even among scientists is still very low. The "publish and perish concept" for their works is still the norm. Many are even surprised to learn that they can publish or commercialize their technology immediately after filing it at the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), now IP Philippines. They thought they have to wait until the certificates are granted before publishing or commercialization can be done. This understanding, coupled with the long period of waiting for the certificate, deter many to apply for protection. Awareness trainings provide opportunity to erase the misconceptions on IP protection and consequences.

In these trainings, participants were able to know the different IPRs, the criteria for eligibility of the IPs, relevance of IP protection to the country's economic development, the value of having the IP Policy, consequences of IP protection, and introduction to patent search, among others. IP policy formulation and claim drafting are also discussed and supplemented with workshops. Not only IP producers but also some high level management from the DA and SUCs attended the trainings. Many representatives especially from the SUCs realized the urgent need for the IP Policy in their respective schools.



Training batches and participants

There were 20 training batches conducted. Two batches coordinated and provided by the IPO were participated in by RIARC and RFRDC managers, DA lawyers and legal staff, and two focal persons each from the regions, bureaus, and attached agencies.

From the last quarter of 2005 to 2007, the BAR Awareness Training Workshops were done for the Regional R&D/E Networks. Sixteen batches were conducted in the regions, while the last two batches were held at BAR for bureaus, attached agencies, and BAR staff.

About 700 participants attended these trainings. In the figure below, it shows the distribution of participants according to agency.

Half of the total participants (51%) came from the DA, 19% from other DA agencies (SEAFDEC, PCA, BPI, BFAR, PCC, etc.), 16% from SUCs, and the others from LGUs and other departments, NGOs, and private individuals which include the Farmer Industry Advisory Committee (FIAC).

Resource speakers in the regional trainings were Dr. Andrea B. Agillon, head of the BAR-IPRO, Atty. James Dennis C. Gumpal, legal and IP adviser of BAR, and Engr. Merito J. Carag, chief of the Bureau of Patents, IP Philippines.

BAR conducts midyear review and planning workshop; new logical frameworks presented

photo by Nicanor Del Rosario III



Participants of the BAR Midyear Review and Planning Workshop held in Tagaytay.

Halfway into the year, divisions and units of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) held its Midyear Review and Planning Workshop on 19-20 July 2007 in Tagaytay City to conduct operational planning and program performance review of the previous semester (January–June).

BAR Director Nicomedes P. Eleazar welcomed the participants and provided policy pronouncements necessary for the smooth implementation of the Bureau's programs and activities.

The two-day event also aimed at planning major activities that are vital to the implementation of

the Bureau's major programs and identifying adjustments in organizational policies and systems to achieve the overall productivity of BAR.

Seven divisions/units presented their accomplishments during the last semester and their plans for the next half of the year: Programs Development Division (PDD), Technology Commercialization Unit (TCU), Research Coordination Division (RCD), Management Information Systems Division (MISD), Intellectual Property Rights Office (IPRO), International Relations Unit (IRU), and Agricultural and Fisheries Policy Research Unit (AFPRU).

One of the highlights of the

review and planning workshop was the presentation of the new logical framework of the Department of Agriculture (DA), which includes research and development (R&D) as part of the inputs in the major final outputs (MFOs) of the Department. Before, it was included as part of the outputs. With this major change, BAR has to adopt and to come up with its own updated logframe.

PU Head Joell H. Lales presented the proposed new BAR logframe for comments, discussion and finalization. He also presented the Agency Performance Measure (APM) for 2008, which specifies key indicators relevant to the Bureau's banner programs and priority activities.

The midyear review and planning workshop is a tool which BAR uses to enhance the efficiency of its performance and management function. As the lead agency of DA for agriculture and fisheries R&D, BAR is expected to achieve the realization of the DA's twin-goals geared towards the creation of more jobs and affordable wage goods as provided in the MTPDP (2004-2010) anchored on the basic premises of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA).

The output of this activity serves as the basis for key players in the organization to fine-tune and redefine policies and objectives necessary in the smooth operation and setting of directions of the Bureau.

BAR Assistant Director Teodoro S. Solsoloy capped the activity with an inspiring quote from Warren Bennis: "Managers are people who do things right, leaders are people who do the right thing." (Rita T. dela Cruz)

BAR leads...from page 1

conducted were technology verification only and not CPAR. The evaluators reiterated that technologies to be used in CPAR must already be mature and ready for adoption.

To address the issues raised by the evaluators, a brief CPAR Orientation was presented the next day by Mr. Tito S. Arevalo, head of BAR's Research Coordination Division (RCD). The step-by-step procedures of coming up with a CPAR project proposal were discussed, stressing the importance of conducting the Participatory Resource Appraisal (PRA).

A copy of the Department of Agriculture Administrative order No. 08, Series of 2007 with the subject 'Guidelines and Procedures in the Implementation of CPAR Program'

was furnished to the participants for guidance and compliance.

Dr. Kagaoan informed the group that BAR is accepting and funding proposals for the conduct of PRA.

After the review, participants headed to the Hundred Islands in Alaminos, Pangasinan to visit the seaweeds project of Region 1. (Alexander G. Arizabal)



RDMIC Bldg., Visayas Ave., cor. Elliptical Rd.
Diliman, Quezon City 1104
PHILIPPINES