

APPC at Jeju



Organizational meeting of APAP Forum held May 26, 2003 at UP Los Baños. Left to right, *sitting*: Wilfredo David, Arsenio Balisacan, Sang Mu Lee, and Donato Antiporta; *standing*: Tirso Paris, Sharon Faye Piza, Rosemarie Edillon, Teow Chow Ti, Yong Kyu Choi, and Hermanto Siregar.

APPC has recently been appointed Secretariat of the Asia-Pacific Agricultural Policy (APAP) Forum. The Forum is a network of non-governmental organizations and individuals who seek to foster understanding of agricultural policies and to build cooperation in agricultural development among countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. One of its major undertakings is holding annual symposia on significant agricultural policy issues that affect member countries. The 2nd APAP Forum is scheduled for October 2003 in Jeju, South Korea.

In November last year, APPC co-hosted an international seminar with the Global Agricultural Policy Institute (GAPI). The seminar, held in Jeju, South

Korea, is entitled "Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region." Dr. Sang Mu Lee, Chairman of GAPI, opened the conference with his paper on "Agriculture and Rural Development." Dr. Arsenio Balisacan, who is also Secretary General of the APAP Forum, presented the keynote paper "Emerging Global Scenario and its Implications on Food Security and Agricultural Development in Asia." The conference comes at a crucial time when many skeptics raise issues about the seeming imbalance of gains and benefits from globalization. Papers of noted researchers from the region were also presented. All these and the discussions that transpired are being prepared by APPC for publication. ●

Activity Briefs

Poverty Mapping for KALAHI-CIDSS

The major objective of this study is to develop the selection criteria and methodology for the poverty mapping and targeting of the KALAHI project, the flagship poverty-alleviation program of the Macapagal administration. This also includes undertaking the preliminary ranking of municipalities in the identified target provinces. The first phase was concluded late last year and the second phase is ongoing. Funding organizations are the World Bank and the Philippine Government.

Population-Growth-Poverty Nexus

This research aims to provide empirically sound bases for policy advocacy on population, poverty, and development. This includes conducting a quantitative assessment of the relationship between population and economic growth, and how this may be linked to poverty. Furthermore, the project will cover estimation of the determinants of fertility at the household level. The study is in collaboration with the Philippine Center for Population and Development (PCPD).

TNA for GAs, NGOs and the UNCT

APPC recently concluded the first phase of the UNDP-NEDA-NAPC project *Deepening Analysis of Poverty and Policy Responses Towards Meeting the National and Millennium Development Goals of Poverty Reduction*.

This endeavor involved a training needs assessment (TNA) on the existing capacity of executive and legislative government agencies (GA), non-government organizations (NGO), as well as the UN Country Team in terms of professional staff competence in designing pro-poor programs and in crafting effective policies and strategies.



Featured Publication

The Philippine Economy: Development, Policies, and Challenges

Arsenio Balisacan and Hal Hill (Eds)

Published by: Oxford University Press and Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2003.

In the editors' words, the Philippines is one of the poorly understood countries in the international arena. A particular that has often been asked is why has the country been an East Asian outlier for most of the past 30 years? This book, according to its editors, examines all major facets of the Philippine economy and development policy over the last three decades, and in so doing provides guideposts for the future. Contributors include prominent academics and practitioners from the fields of economics and political science.

Dr. Arsenio Balisacan is a Professor of Economics at the University of the Philippines School of Economics, Diliman. He is also the President of the Asia-Pacific Policy Center. Dr. Hal Hill is the H.W. Arndt Professor of Southeast Asian Economies at the Australian National University.

Formal launching of the book was held last January 2003 at the Asian Institute of Management, Makati City. ●

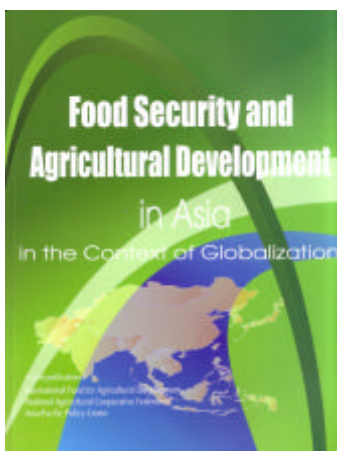
TNA for GAs, NGOs ... from page 1

The APPC team, led by Executive Director Rosemarie Edillon, targeted 84 institutions seen as integral to the goals of the project.

With the completion of Phase 1, the team has recommended a training program that tackles understanding the issues surrounding poverty and vulnerability, as well as provides tools for identification and measurement to effect strategies that address such problems. Preparation for Phase 2, the implementation of the training program, is currently in progress.

Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in Asia

In June 2002, APPC, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the National Agricultural Cooperatives Federation of South Korea (NACF) co-organized an international conference on *Food Security and Agricultural Development in Asia in the Context of Globalization*. The two-day conference was held at the Galleria Suites in Pasig City.



Various sectors from eight Asian countries (South Korea, Cambodia, Laos, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, and the Philippines) participated with government representatives presenting their current state of food security and agricultural development.

Arsenio Balisacan presented a paper on the opportunities and risks brought about by globalization; Ramon Clarete spoke on the impact of multilateral agricultural trade liberalization on developing countries and food security; Suk-Won Yoon gave the last main paper which discussed the possibilities of agricultural cooperation.

Copies of the published conference proceedings are now available at the APPC office. ●

Ongoing Projects

- Baseline Survey for KALAHI-CIDSS. Supported by the World Bank.
- Assessing the Impact of Agrarian Reform and the ARC Strategy on Poverty Using Census, National Household Surveys, and ARC Data. Supported by FAO.
- Poverty Mapping for KALAHI-CIDSS II. Supported by the World Bank and Philippine Government.
- Deepening Analysis of Poverty and Policy Responses Toward's Meeting the National and Millennium Development Goals of Poverty Reduction. Supported by the UNDP.
- Research Project on the Population-Poverty Nexus in Rural Areas. Supported by the Philippine Center for Population and Development.

About Us

The Asia-Pacific Policy Center (APPC) is a non-stock, non profit research and training organization committed to advancing the understanding of policy and investment options for poverty reduction and rural development in Asia and the Pacific. Its major programs include research, publication, program development and capacity building, and provision of graduate research grants.

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*APPC Currents comes out once every semester.