

Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation, and Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives in the Agriculture and Fisheries Sector

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Climate Change and the Philippine Agriculture Sector

- In agriculture, climate change means increased annual mean temperature, extreme events, seasonal rainfall (dry will be drier, wet will be wetter) and cyclones/typhoons more frequent and stronger. The results are: loss of lives, reduction in agricultural productivity and income, among others.
- Though the Philippines contributes 0.24% to global GHG emissions, the country, however, is most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Thus, adaptation is more of a priority.

DA Strategy

- Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA) is DA's program on Climate Change (CC) with the vision of enabling the local communities in the agri-fishery (AF) sector to pursue sustainable livelihood while effectively managing climate risks. Since its inception in 2013, AMIA followed a programmatic approach to building resilient yet progressive AF livelihoods and communities.

DA Strategy

- To achieve this, the DA is geared towards mainstreaming climate change initiatives in its regular plans and programs through transforming systems in the Department, adjusting development programs/projects, and capacitating people to achieve efficiency at all levels of implementation. The DA aims to transform its whole budget into a climate change adaptation budget through the AMIA strategy.

DA Strategy

- The DA, through the Systems Wide Climate Change Office (DA SWCCO), in cooperation with local and international research institutions, conducted several technical and policy studies to provide guidance for the Department on what should be done on the ground to address climate change related issues

DA's Climate Change and DRR Initiatives

- AMIA implemented its first project (AMIA 1) in 2015-2016, focusing on strengthening of DA capacities and enabling environment in mainstreaming climate change in its plans, programs, and budgets.
- The major output of which are the National Color-Coded Agricultural Guide (NACCAG) maps to assess the exposure of a production area to climate hazards and at the same time identify the appropriate crops to be planted given these hazards.

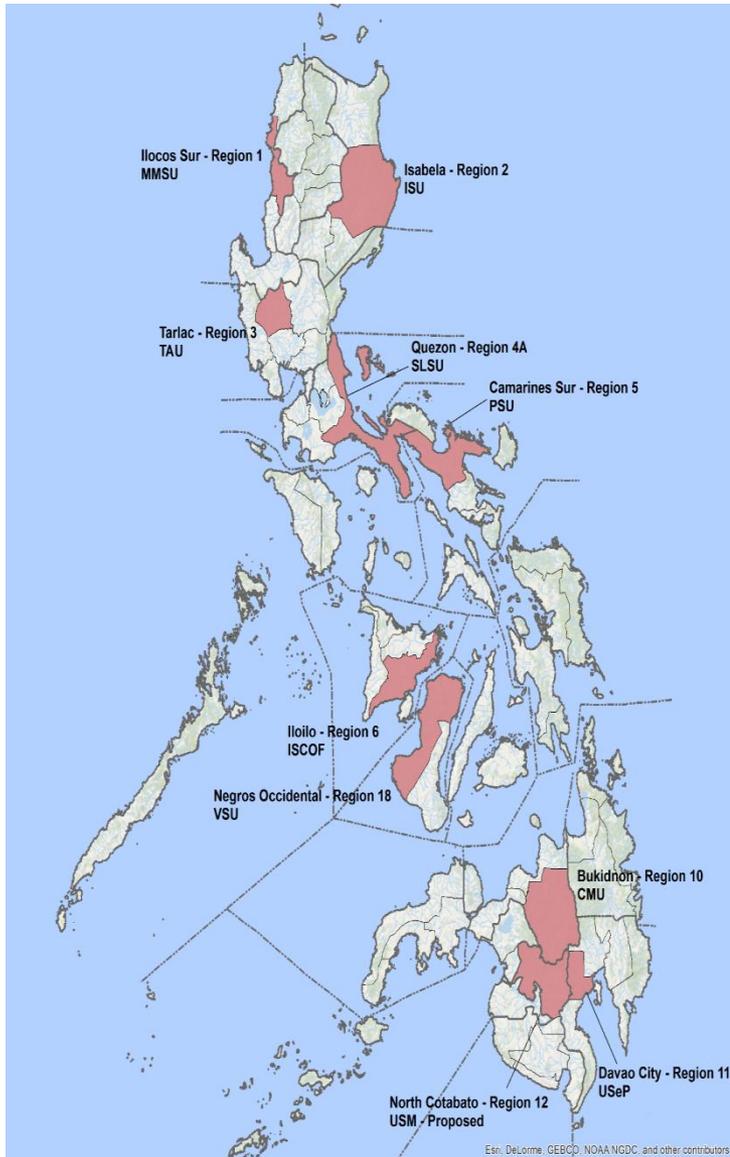
DA's Climate Change and DRR Initiatives

- The second project, AMIA 2 started implementation in 2016 with the focus on building climate resilient livelihoods and communities, with the support of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) climate change program.
- Building on the exposure-hazards information from the NACCAG maps, AMIA 2 completed the Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) of 286 municipalities of selected 10 regions in the country.

DA's Climate Change and DRR Initiatives

- After identifying the risks and vulnerabilities, AMIA Villages are now being set-up in one province per region to showcase DA integrated support services (Technical Assistance for CC Adaptation technologies/practices, financing, insurance, infrastructure, extension services, marketing support, etc.) and thus serve as “light houses” or “go to places” for Climate Resilient Agri-fisheries (CRA)

AMIA Villages Geographic Targets



AMIA 2+ – 10 regions

Region I: Ilocos Sur: San Emilio (Kalumsing, Lancuas, Sibsibbu)

Region II: Isabela: San Benito Soliven (Lucban) & Ilagan City (San Victoria)

Region III: Tarlac: Victoria (Balayang, Mangolago, Cruz)

Region IVA: Quezon: San Francisco (Casay, Sti. Nino, Huyon-Uyon), Guinyangan

Region V: Camarines Sur : Pamplona (Cagbunga)

Region VI: Iloilo: Banate (Carmelo, Merced, Libertad)

Region X: Bukidnon: Libona (Gango, Kinawe, Kiliog)

Region XI: Davao City (Marilog:Suawan)

Region XII: North Cotabato: Pigcawayan (Buloaon, New Igaras, Maluao)

Region XVIII: Negros Occidental: Pontevedra (San Isidro, Gen Malvar)

DA's Climate Change and DRR Initiatives

- In addition to these operational activities of the DA on climate change, the AMIA program of the DA also focused on the Monitoring and Evaluation component of its adaptation initiatives by identifying Key Result Areas and indicators that will truly evaluate the impact of such activities to the agriculture and fisheries sector as reflected in the overall development plan of the Philippine Government (e.g. Philippine Development Plan, National Climate Change Adaptation Plan)

Way Forward

- To cover the remaining target areas (7 regions), the DA will be coordinating through its RFOs with SUCs and LGUs on determining the areas to pilot test these technologies and best practices.
- Alongside this activity, the DA will continue to enhance its capacity to mainstream climate change in its regular programs and functions to ultimately translate the budget of the Department into a climate change adaptation budget

Way Forward

- The DA will also be enhancing its efforts on the following activities:

1. Climate information services: Upgrading, and provision, where absent, of climate information services in municipalities where populations are predominantly dependent on agriculture and fishery

1. Risk transfer, risk pooling and credit mechanisms: Increasing the coverage and capacities of local risk transfer agencies to cover substantially more insurance beneficiaries and types of commodities as well as increase the provision of access to loans for smallholder farmers.

Way Forward

3. Climate resilient agri-fisheries (CRA) technologies: Promoting the use of climate resilient agri-fisheries technologies and practices as a means of achieving climate resilient communities and value chains as well as decrease risks and cope from climate change; CRA technologies and practices will also contribute to reducing emissions and increase carbon sinks (e.g. from soil carbon)
4. Climate-Resilient Infrastructure: Providing support to develop agriculture and fisheries infrastructure that enhances resilience, including solar-powered irrigation pumps, where feasible, and develop and implement climate risk safeguards for existing and planned agriculture and fisheries infrastructure.

Way Forward

5. Support to policy development, governance and markets: This component will be key to strengthen the enabling environment necessary to mobilize finance and upscale CRA throughout the Philippines. This will include policy dialogues and engagement in the international negotiations, regional exchange of best practices (within the Philippines and internationally), stakeholders' platforms to involve the private sector among others.

THANK YOU