



# BRIDGING



PARTICIPATION OF  
COMMUNITIES & CSOs IN  
DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

AsiaDHRRA in 2008-2009



## *Chairperson's Message*

**A**s the network embarked to strengthen its program on making markets work for small producers, it found itself in the midst of several major crisis that hit not only the region but the global community – food price and rice crisis and the financial breakdown. The root causes of these issues point to bad agricultural governance and the on-slaught of unchecked greed of the commercial world. These complex issues have seriously affected the vulnerable sectors in the region, especially the rural poor. With the launching of the “Linking Small Farmers to Markets” project, AsiaDHRRA offered an encouraging path that hopes to bring, at the end of the road, a better chance for small farmers to overcome the impacts of the crisis, in a more sustainable way.

We have advanced the capacity of our partners on this road hardly travelled successfully by many of us in the CSO community through people to people

## *Chairperson's Message*

learning exchanges and technical assistance. Along this, we have persisted in finding and bringing in more champions in discovering the whole value chain of effective support that AsiaDHRRA and its partners ought to extend to its partners on the ground. And for all these "champions" that we have found and worked with, our deepest appreciation. Thank you for the never ending commitment to work together and cross path, if only to find better options for the rural poor.

We had a good harvest this year but this we celebrated with bowed heads in deep remembrance of our dear former Chairperson, Guillermo P. Cua, who passed away in December 2008 and our beloved founder leader Dr. Antonio Ledesma who also joined our Creator in March 2009. We thank both of them for their love and compassion for the poor which they have generously passed on to many of us in our generation. We tread the future with confidence and joy knowing that Gil and Dr. Tony are with us in spirit and we have God's mighty blessings.

**DATUK MARIMUTHU NADASON**  
Chairperson, AsiaDHRRA  
DHRRA Malaysia



REGIONAL MOVEMENT BUILDING AND POLICY ADVOCACY

# BRIDGED CSO PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL PROCESSES

AsiaDHRRA has steadily enhanced its presence and leadership in facilitating positive dialogues among CSOs and regional bodies in Southeast Asia

- Sustained advocacy on Food Security at ASEAN, FAO, ADB and UN.
- Heightened advocacy on impact of global financial crisis
- Sustained interaction among RDWG and facilitated its collective engagement with regional bodies particularly ASEAN and FAO
- Mobilized resources to support regional movement building and policy advocacy initiatives
- Strengthened links with international agencies while keeping close interaction with community-based groups





ASEAN Social Forum Nov 2008



EcoSocioCultural Rights Forum Dec 2008



ASEAN-FAO Food Security May 28 2009



FAO APRC Mar 26 2009



Financial Crisis Conference July 28 2009



Food Sufficiency VideoConference Apr 29 2009



Investment Forum for Food Security in Asia and the Pacific



Social Accountability Training  
Feb 22 2009

CAPACITY BUILDING

# ENHANCED DHRRA CAPACITY

Continued support to the DHRRA's leading to their enhanced visibility and increased capability in providing services to partners

- Improved the DHRRA's capacity to implement network projects and provide effective services to farmers particularly on agricultural production and marketing
- Provided enhanced technical assistance to members
- Continuous project development initiatives with international agencies while keeping close interaction with community-based groups



Dr. Wenchi Huang - Resource Speaker for LSMF Regional Training Workshops



Food Security conference CSO Side Event July 2007



Visit to MyanDHRRRA Jan 2009



2010-07-09 Investment Forum for Food Security

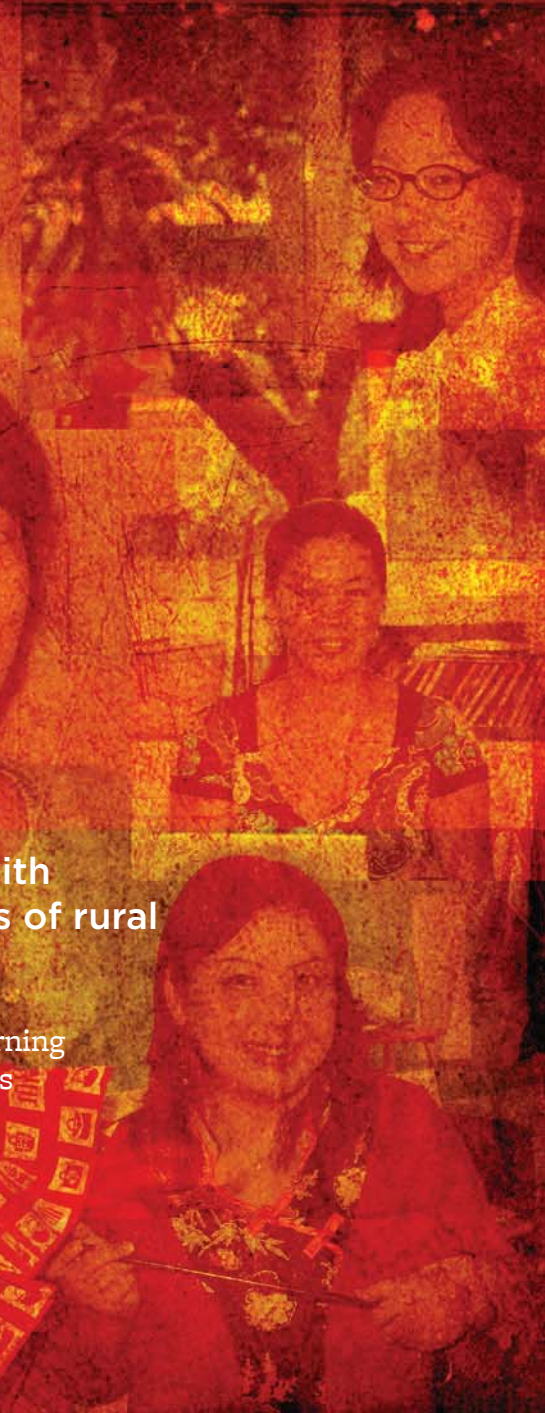


LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

# DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS

Opened doors to young generation enabling them to gain familiarity with social development work and a wider understanding of the possibilities of rural development

- Sustained internship and volunteer programs in the secretariat and the DHRRAs to provide learning opportunity to young DHRRAs members and aspiring rural development workers and advocates





NETWORK DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

# A STRONGER NETWORK

Facilitated active involvement of members in network affairs and in various regional activities enabling them to build up skills and share their expertise and experiences to the wider community

- Active participation of members in regional events and projects (LSFM, SAC, AIFS)
- Active engagement of DHRRA leaders in network affairs
- Maximized opportunities in regional and global events for staff development
- Developed strategic partnerships relevant & complementary to network agenda
- Mobilized and harnessed resources from co-stakeholders for bigger work and impact



Execom Meeting April 2008



AsiaDHRRRA GA June 2008



Execom Meeting Cambodia Jan 2009



Execom meeting-jakarta Aug 2 2009



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

# OPTIMUM MANAGEMENT OF LIMITED RESOURCES

Prudent and resourceful management of limited funds resulting to unhampered operations and timely delivery of expected outputs

- Pooled small grants from various sources for major collaborative activities in the region
- Initiated various cost efficient actions in project implementation and organizational activities while ensuring maximum impact and diverse participants

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

# ENHANCED WEB PRESENCE

Responsive adjustments to web based projects enabled AsiaDHRRA to widen its digital audience and continue its steady pace towards meaningful internet visibility

- Elevated AsiaDHRRA website recognition through creative content presentation
- Effective MIS Technical support provided to members and network project e.g. LSFM
- Expanded internet presence through activity blogs and use of social networking apps





By [admin](#) on Sep 12, 2010 in [DHRRA News](#), [Featured](#) | [0 Comments](#)

**Responding to the Challenges of the Global Food and Financial Crisis and Climate Change**  
September 14-18, 2010 | Pingtung, Taiwan

## AsiaDHRRA holds 8th General Assembly in Pingtung, Taiwan

By [admin](#) on Sep 15, 2010 in [DHRRA Members](#), [DHRRA News](#) | [0 Comments](#)

AsiaDHRRA is holding its 8th General Assembly from September 15-17 in the National Pingtung University of Science and Technology located in the bucolic city of Pingtung, Taiwan. The theme of the GA is Responding to the Challenges of the Global Food and Financial Crisis and Climate Change.

“The General Assembly will focus on defining our strategic directions in the next five years. We will take time to have a collective understanding of the development context and challenges that AsiaDHRRA have dealt with in recent years, which have influenced its work and which will continue to do so in the near future. Voices from various stakeholders will also be heard to guide the network in its direction setting. The spirit of musyawarah will once again be invoked to bring in the DHRRA leaders and partners to an open dialogue, nurturing further understanding and camaraderie needed to strengthen cooperation and solidarity.”

TaiwanDHRRA, under the able leadership of Ms. Wenchi Huang is the host of the General Assembly.

## Happy Eid 2010!

By [admin](#) on Sep 9, 2010 in [Featured](#) | [0 Comments](#)

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Sam Bambang Setyo Sebastian



Iswan Vera Emylis M Husni Sudirman

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### PhilRice Farm Machines



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### Visit our Activity Blogs!

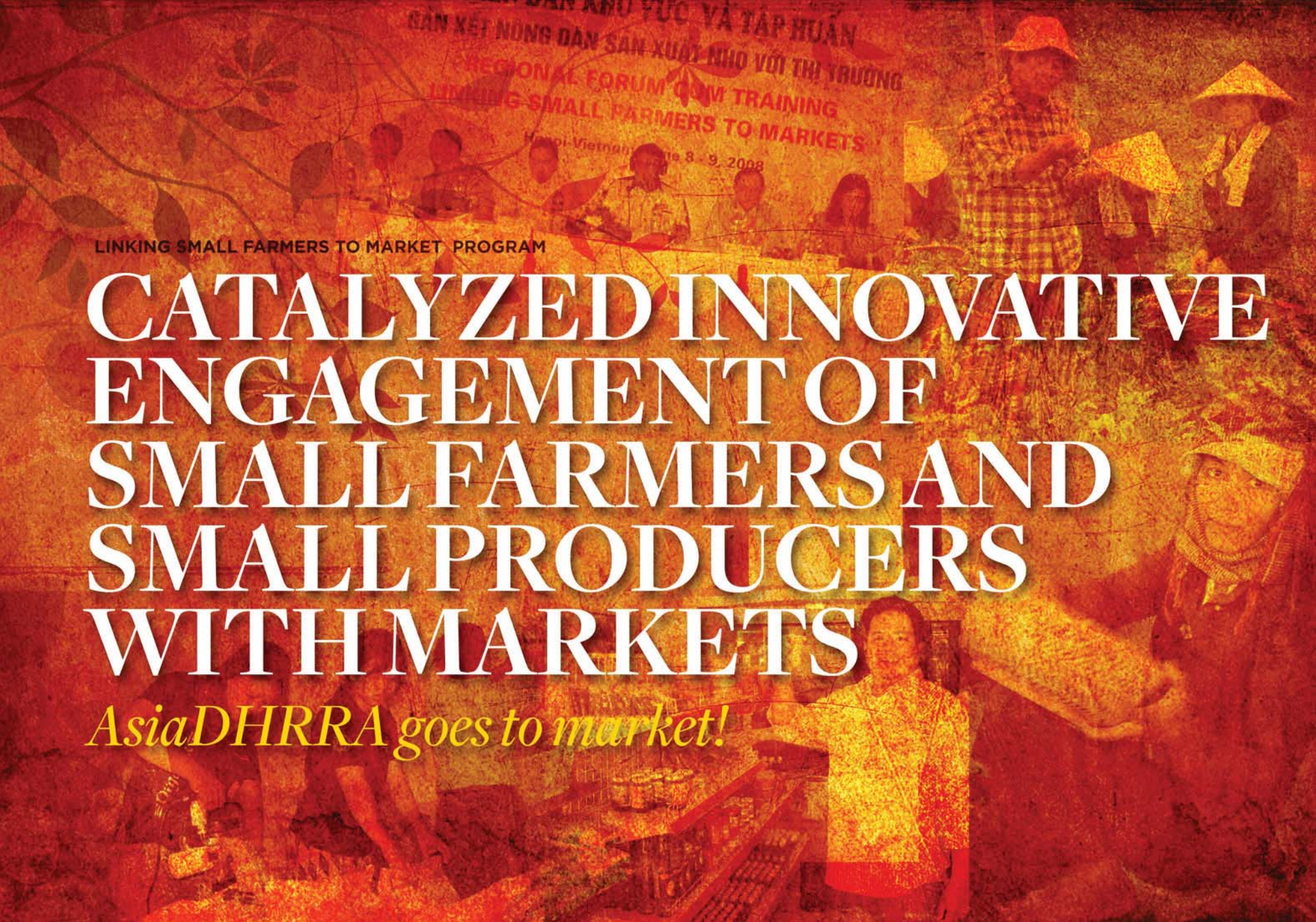
- ◆ CSO Side Event: Investment for Whom and for What
- ◆ FAO Civil Society Regional Consultation on Food Security in Asia and the Pacific Region
- ◆ Regional Conference on the Impact of Financial and Economic Crisis on Vulnerable Sectors of the Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN
- ◆ Third Regional Training Workshop: The importance of commodity-based associations of small producers in addressing competitiveness and for successful market engagements (July 28-July 2, 2009)
- ◆ Global Food Sufficiency: Towards Sustainable Food Production and Consumption
- ◆ Second LSFM Regional Workshop - Siem Reap, Cambodia

FORUM DAN ANU YUO VA TAP HUAN  
BAN KHET NONG DAN SAN XUAT NHU VOT THI TRUONG  
REGIONAL FORUM ON TRAINING  
LINKING SMALL FARMERS TO MARKETS  
Hanoi-Vietnam, June 8 - 9, 2008

LINKING SMALL FARMERS TO MARKET PROGRAM

# CATALYZED INNOVATIVE ENGAGEMENT OF SMALL FARMERS AND SMALL PRODUCERS WITH MARKETS

*AsiaDHRRA goes to market!*



**LSFM resulted to increased coordination among small-scale producers and in understanding the demands and requirements of their market. With a deeper understanding of the market requirements, the small-scale producers realized the need for greater consolidation among them to be able to meet those requirements.**

#### ***Market Studies***

The participatory market researches on 4 selected commodities helped enhanced small farmers/producers understanding of value chains, the market potentials of the selected commodities, the markets players and the necessity to improve their position and active participation in the chain.

#### ***Capacity-building***

Organized 18 national training workshops and exchanges and 3 regional training and learning exchanges and workshops focused on a range of local, national and global marketing issues confronted by small-scale farmers and producers.

#### ***Market Intermediation***

Launched marketing intermediation initiatives to jumpstart formal engagement with the market

#### ***Partnership Building***

- At the regional level, organized The LSFM Project Advisory Committee (PAC), a partnership mechanism among key stakeholders relative to the implementation of the LSFM project.
- At the national levels, project partners have organized LSFM Project Advisory Group (PAG) and technical working groups that draw and mobilize expertise from government, academe and private sector.
- At the local level, cooperation between local NGOs, target farmers and local government units are made possible.

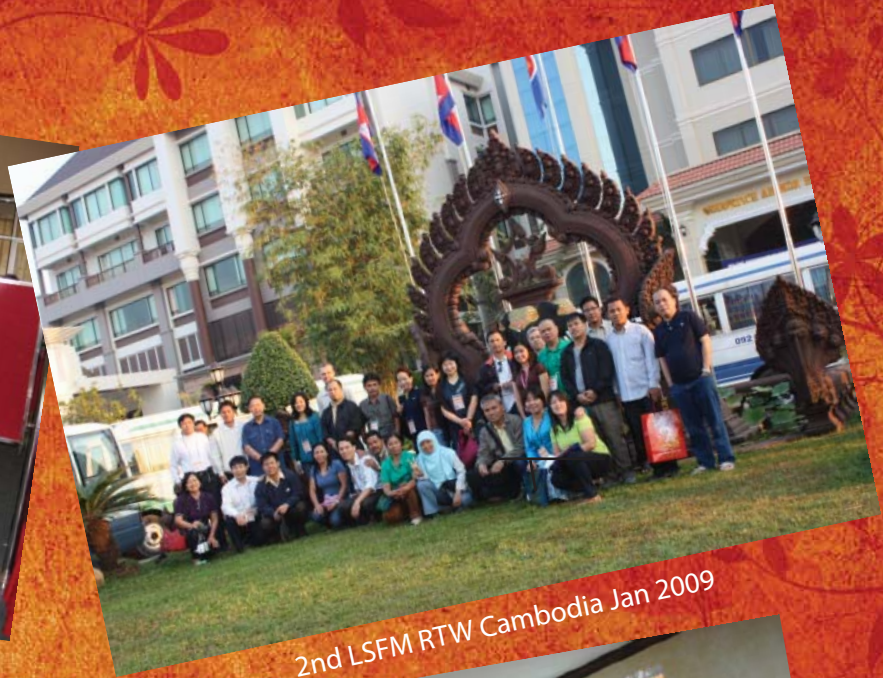
#### ***Policy Advocacy***

The project has facilitated national policy review, workshops and dialogues between farmers organizations and national government agriculture agencies and local governments. Farmers were briefed about existing policies that directly affect them and their access to markets.





1st LSFM RTW Hanoi June 2008



2nd LSFM RTW Cambodia Jan 2009



3rd LSFM RTW Cagayan de Oro Jun 2009



LSFM PMT PAC Meetin June 2009 Cagayan de Oro



# THE DHRRA<sub>s</sub> in 2008 & 2009

We proudly share the achievements of the DHRRA members in the  
years 2008 and 2009

## BINADESA

### Strengthening People's Organization

Strengthening people's organizations in the form of leadership and agenda setting in order to be able to advocate their own interest in the villages of; Cikareo Selatan, Sumedang, West Java, Canduang Koto Tuo, Bukittinggi, West Sumatera; Sikasur, Pemalang and Menawan, Kudus, Central Java; Pasru Jambe, Lumajang, East Java; and Monmata, Aceh Barat, Aceh.

### Capacity Building for Cadres

Bina Desa has implemented capacity building program for cadre through dialogue of life training, community organizing training, Basic and Ideology of natural farming, Transformative leadership in Cikareo Selatan, Sumedang- West Java, Mekarsari Village in Cianjur West Java, Canduang Koto Tuo, Bukittinggi, West Sumatera; Sikasur, Pemalang and Menawan, Kudus, Central Java; Pasru Jambe, Lumajang, East Java; and Monmata, Aceh Barat, Aceh.

In general people's organization should not only consider capacity building for cadres through training, since it is always means extra funding allocation for certain costs. When the organization has no extra funding, then there will be no capacity building for cadres. Binadesa conducts capacity building for cadres through a number of ways, such as ensuring that active members as well as candidate members of the organization maintain regular forum meeting or free discussion, as well as by approaching (candidate) cadre in a personal but systematic and organized way by the organizer or by organization leaders. Through these methods cadres can be involved in discussion to improve their knowledge, their skill, and to win their support to the organiza-



*Rally held during Anti-Corruption Day*

tion's objective and to encourage them to take active role in the organization's activity.



*Community Organizing Training*

### **Capacity Building for Local Government (Village administrative)**

Aside from the community at large, the local village administration has specific role in determining where the community is heading in the future. In realizing the aspiration towards a Self-Managed Rural Commu-

nity / Masyarakat Swabina Perdesaan, Bina Desa always stresses out that improving the capacity of the village administrative to a level where they have the awareness and pro-people attitude as well as service attitude will have a significant contribution to the acceleration toward the achievement of such aspirations. This capacity building has been done in Aceh, more especially since the leaders are new while the socio-political condition has been particularly challenging.

### **Economic Development**

The sustainable agriculture program through natural farming is Bina Desa's strategy for household income generation. We have been applying the natural farming for paddy, vegetables (cucumber, tomato, chili, etc) mushroom, fish farms (gold fish

and catfish ) and cow cattle, sheep cattle in Kudus Pemasang and Banjarnegara – Central Java, Canduang Kuto Tuo, Bukit Tinggi District – West Sumatera, and Monmata – Nangroe Aceh Darusallam Province.

Bina Desa believes that in improving every household's income in the community while taking into account the pivotal role of women. This involved strengthening capital and existing business production unit of the people to ensure that they have adequate economic capability to keep the business running well. Binadesa has also provided training programs to improve the management capacity of the business unit operators, and maintain the sustainability of natural resource as basis for the community business. For all of these purposes, providing equal access and opportunity for women in all aspect of economic development is a must.

## Development of Socio-Cultural Aspects

Some high socio-cultural values practiced within the community, such as solidarity and collectivism where women and men have equal access and control to and respect for natural resources and environment have consolidate the existence of local communities for generations. Unfortunately, these are currently diminishing and are being replaced by consumerism and individualism. The latest trend has caused some socio-cultural issues. Bina Desa believes that one of its responsibility is to revive and return those values back as the foundation of the community life. Bina Desa approaches this by identifying and appreciating their historical root, without confronting the new incoming values as they too, can enrich the traditional values.

Bina Desa has been encouraging the community to revive the socio cultural aspects for instance "Musyawarah, Gotong Royong, and ritual for paddy plant, etc" with gender



*Aquaculture project*

perspective. These are currently implemented in communities in Cikareo Selatan, Sumedang- West Java, , Canduang Koto Tuo, Bukittinggi, West Sumatera; and Menawan, Kudus, Central Java; Pasru Jambe, Lumajang, East Java.

## Environmental Management

Along with the progress of human development, environmental quality is decreasing everywhere. Human's exploitative nature usually takes no consideration of the environmental sustainability and this has led to degradation. Women more especially are the most affected by this model of development. For villagers, they need more education and advocacy for awareness on how to conserve the natural resources. Environmental issues related to them are changing the function of land, from agriculture to other purposes, and overuse of pesticide due to the so-called green revolution (a program by Indonesian government under President Soeharto era), which now creates severe damages on the soil and has lead to loss of biodiversity.

Through natural farming, the community can maintain the environmental quality, for instance, organic fertilizer can restore soil fertility, the manure does not smell so it does not raises air pollution, the organic

pesticide didn't cause environmental damage, etc. We have implemented in Cikareo Selatan, Sumedang- West Java, Canduang Koto Tuo, Bukittinggi, West Sumatera; and Menawan, Kudus, Central Java; Pasru Jambé, Lumajang, East Java

### **Public Education Program.**

Bina Desa has supported the Public Education Program for all Bina Desa community assisted in 7 provinces ( West Java, Central Java, East Java, Nangroe Aceh Darusalam, West Sumatera, North Sumatera and South Sulawesi).

The objective is to encourage full involvement among all community members to achieve a shared goal with the organization, in a systematic and organized way. Community organization which fails to win public support is similar to failure to build strong foundation for their objectives. Public – or community members in general – who live in the same village as one community organization, shall become the target as well

as beneficiary for the organization's works in the long run. Public is the organization's key stakeholders so that their knowledge and awareness on the organization's work is also important to formulate decision and agenda of the organization itself.

### **Advocacy for Better Policy or for Favorable Settlement**

All community organizations in 6 assisted villages reported here continues to advocate the local government for better policy and support. The community in Candung is working on advocacy targeted at village administrative to make Village Regulation (Perna) favorable to revive the principle of solidarity or *tungku tigo sajarangan, tali tigo sapilin*. Cikareo community also works on advocacy on specific land right issue to sup-

port the community struggle to win back the land right from the Veteran Legion of



*Farmer Exposure in Banjarnegara*

Kodam Siliwangi, whereas Sikasur Community is working on water issue against local water utility company (PDAM). Menawan



Community is working on the agenda to make village regulation regarding reforestation and performance monitoring for village administrative is what the community in Pasrujambe still working on right now.

### **Networking**

Most often, local community and orga-

nization find themselves needing to relate with other organizations having similar issues to advocate. Some issues indeed cover various stakeholders. In this situation,

it is crucial to develop linkage with other concerned organizations, and such collaboration enable them to voice out the issue to find settlement.

Partner organizations that apply this approach have significantly strengthened their

voice. Petawa, for example, has done networking with other organizations sharing similar issues and struggle in the region; land issue. Similar method is applied by community in the village of Sikasur. Whereas consolidating their networking in Canduang means to consolidate the existing collaboration network of both internal in Canduang village and with other villages/nagari. The same

agenda of consolidation is also applied in Pasrujambe, whereas Monmata community is more into improving organizational awareness, since most community organizations in Monmata were established due to post-tsunami relief aid.

### **Development of Support Facilities**

Village community also needs infrastructure support. Buildings or other facilities which will enable them to meet, to hold a forum of decision making, or to do other communal

activities where they can share experience and knowledge on new matters, for example the household income improvement. Some of those facilities are traditional village market, training center (pusdiklat), village library and clean water distribution, such as those put under the program of communities in Jorong Canduang, Desa Cikareo, Desa Menawan and Desa Sikasur.



*Eco Fair Trade in Bali*



# DHRRR MALAYSIA

DHRRR Malaysia has continued its effort in uplifting women, youth and children from various ethnic groups through programme and living skills. DHRRR Malaysia emerged with a new vision and mission in order to be more effective in uplifting the vulnerable community.

## Vision

The community centre envisions making vulnerable communities self-reliant & empowered to exercise their individual and collective rights.

## Mission

The Community Centre's mission is to enhance self-awareness & equipping living skills among vulnerable communities to become self-reliant and empowered; for them to be able to take charge of their lives.

## TOTAL OUTREACH 2008 & 2009

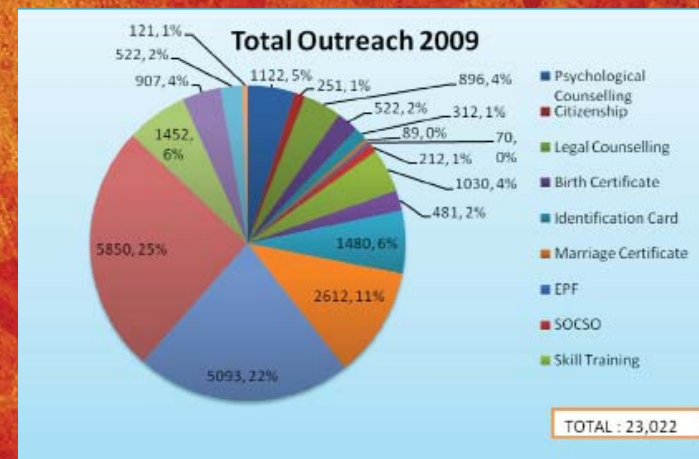
The desired impact of this project is that the vulnerable communities are able to lead an improved quality of life. To achieve this, various activities have been conducted in 2008 and 2009. A total of 52,483 individuals have benefited from the Community Centre Project in these 24 months.

### Achievement Of the Community Centre Project

2008

#### Rapist and Rape – Who & Why

Rape is very common in Malaysia. It is believed that an average of four women are raped daily. Understanding that without proper knowledge on these issues, preventative efforts will be limited, the Community Centre published a research which embarked on a journey to identify the why, when, who and how – of rape. The aim of this publication is to educate people on rape and create awareness in addressing



this violation of rights and dignity. The book ceremony was launched by YB Dato' Ng Yen Yen, Minister of Women, Family and Community Development in July 2008.

### ***Living in a Multicultural Society: The American and Malaysian Experience***

The various ethnic background in Malaysia has indeed captured attention of many other nations. In effort on enhancing further racial understanding, ERA Consumer Malaysia and DHRRA Malaysia jointly organized a seminar in collaboration with U.S Embassy. The seminars were held in several higher education institution namely Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UiTM). The one day seminar was held in Alor Setar, Kedah which reflected on ethnic, cultural and religious diversities in both nations.

2009

### ***Radio***

Another effective initiative is the launch of ERA Community Centre's radio program – Uyervai Nokki which means "Towards

Achieving Success". This program is on air on Minnal FM every Friday, 10.15pm to 11pm. ERA Community Centre's HQ which is based in Petaling Jaya is open on Saturdays now to meet the listeners' demand and inquiries. The aim of this radio program is to provide a forum and advice on the various issues faced by the community. The listeners are also fed on with a wide range of information which they can find useful in helping them overcome the challenges faced.

### ***Mobile Community Unit***

To further reach out beyond the parameters of the physical centre, the Community Centre initiated its Mobile Community Unit. With the grant from Japan Embassy, the mobile community unit was launched in April 2009 by YB Datuk S. Subramaniam, Minister of Human Resource. The Mobile Community Unit aims to provide capacity building programs and awareness programs, psychological counseling and legal advice to those from rural, suburban and urban areas.

Empowerment of Women and Girls Project

Parallel to our vision and mission, DHRRA Malaysia launched two women projects with the support of ExxonMobil and Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development. The both projects aim to empower women through self-awareness, living skills and income generating techniques. The Exxonmobil Projects started in late 2008 and will end in 2011. The project launched with Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development aims to implement 15 women development programme to enhance their psychological well being and socioeconomic status.

### ***YORA : Year of Rice Action***

DHRRA Malaysia jointly with Southeast Asian Council for Food Security (SEACON), Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific (PAN AP) organized a one year campaign dedicated to save rice, paddy farming and its heritage in Malaysia. With the theme of "Rice for Life and Livelihood" the Year of Rice Action (YORA) 2009-2010 Campaign was launched in Kampung Matang Pasir in Gunung Semanggol, Perak.

# PhilDHRRA

## *Highlights of Accomplishments*

### **Philippine Asset Reform Report Card (PARRC) Project (January 2007-May 2008)**

The PARRC project is a research and advocacy initiative of PhilDHRRA to bring asset reform back to the forefront of the government's agenda. It reviewed the government's performance in asset reform, specifically in the implementation of four asset reform laws: CARL, UDHA, IPRA, and the Fisheries Code. The study utilized a nationwide survey of asset reform beneficiaries in terms of program implementation, support service provision, and threats of reversal. The research was published in May 2008.

### **Linking Small Farmers to Market (LSFM) Project (February 2008-December 2009)**

To contribute to rural poverty reduction in South East Asia, the LSFM project was aimed at strengthening the capacity of small farmers and their organizations as they establish on-ground marketing links and collaborate with policy makers at national, sub-regional, and regional levels. Some of LSFM's major activities in the Philippines are capacity building, marketing intermediation mechanism, partnership building, and policy advocacy.

### **PhilDHRRA's 20th General Assembly and Silver Anniversary (Aug. 20-23, 2008)**

A three – day general assembly capped by a silver anniversary celebration and fundraising dinner was organized that allowed PhilDHRRA network members to reflect on engagements and partnerships. It laid

down the network's new 5-year strategic plan (2009-2013) and came up with a tapestry symbolizing PhilDHRRA's direction. In between discussions were recreational activities that allowed network members to unwind and mingle with former PhilDHRRA people and renew old ties. A forum on "Migration and Rural Development" was also convened during this gathering.

### **Raising Awareness on the Social Dimensions of Climate Change: A PhilDHRRA Pilot Activity (May - October 2009)**

With an aim to integrate climate change issues in its framework, PhilDHRRA takes off by raising awareness on the social dimensions of climate change through the conduct of regional and national forums/workshops backed with a knowledge fair. This is geared to eventually engage its network members in climate change – related initiatives and enhance their capacity to dialogue

with the government (both at the local and national levels) for policy formulation and mainstreaming of climate change as a social issue.

### ***Challenges encountered (problems, difficulties) and Responses Made***

The impacts of the global financial crisis and natural calamities that devastated the country in 2008 and 2009 have greatly dampened the generosity of potential benefactors, and had adversely affected the fund-raising initiatives of the network. Aside from the potential negative effect to the “gifts” strategy, the crisis also had an impact on the ability of PhilDHRRA’s regular donors to increase their allocation for grants.

The abrupt vacancy of two key positions in 2008, Finance Manager and National Coordinator, had greatly affected the Secretariat’s daily operations. In response, a member of the Board of Trustees temporarily acted as Officer – In – Charge, while an Administra-

tive and Finance Officer was designated to assist in smoothly running the Secretariat.

In early 2010, the Secretariat was able to hire a National Coordinator and a senior Finance Officer. Internal management systems have been strengthened and representation and advocacies in crucial CSO networks and relevant government participation mechanisms renewed. Now, PhilDHRRA can proudly say that it is more focused on further strengthening its internal control, while addressing its sustainability.

### ***Plans for 2011 and beyond***

#### **Asset Reform Advocacy**

Starting 2010, advocacy for the passage of the National Land Use Act (NLUA) will be renewed and strengthened with PhilDHRRA being at the helm of a project entitled, “Re-kindling the National Land Use Campaign through Intersectoral Advocacy, Solidarity and Capacity Building”. This campaign and

capacity building initiative is being conducted in partnership with other coalitions, PO federation and NGOs advocating for a comprehensive land use policy in support of ongoing advocacies and campaigns on agri-fuel production, mining, foreign direct investments/land grabbing and the emerging climate change.

#### **Network Capacity Building to Address Climate Change**

More focused interventions shall be pursued in engaging the network members to address in climate change by embarking on climate change adaptation and related initiatives and enhance their capacity to dialogue with the government (both at the local and national levels). A capacity building cum training on Community-based Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRM/CBDRR) is being developed and customized for PhilDHRRA NGO members and Secretariat, for (their) subsequent application in their respective SIAD sites and

communities, in partnership with the local government and other stakeholders.

### **Engagement with the Aquino Administration in Promoting Transparency, Accountability and Good Governance**

With the installation of the Benigno Simeon "Noy" Aquino as the new Philippine President following the results of 2010 national and local elections, there is a general perception of greater government transparency and accountability as a national policy to be pursued by his administration. PhilDHRRA since July this year reinvigorated its efforts in engaging various oversight national government agencies foremost of which are

the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR).

PhilDHRRA currently serves as the convener of a loose but with a wide base of membership of NGOs and coalitions collectively called, TF-PLG or the Task Force for Participatory Governance that advocate for participatory local governance. PhilDHRRA National Secretariat has been engaged and will continue to engage the DAR in promoting transparency in monitoring performance in key project/programs of DAR while PhilDHRRA-Visayas Secretariat is embarking on a similar

endeavor but this time for monitoring the DA programs/projects. With the DBM, along with other major NGO networks such as the CODE-NGO, PhilDHRRA has forged partnership with the DBM in promoting and pursuing a more transparent and accountable budget process of the national government.

Given the overall enabling policy environment under the Aquino Administration for a more accountable governance, PhilDHRRA looks forward to a more productive engagement with key national government agencies and with the local government units as well in the remaining 5 years of (his) administration.

## MyanDHRRA

The SEARSOLIN Alumni Association of Myanmar (SAAM) was born as MyanDHRRA after the 5th AsiaDHRRA General Assembly which conducted at Bay View Park, Manila, Philippines on August 14, 2004. It was significance important values and close partnership with AsiaDHRRA and other DHRRA. The implementation of the rural development projects, to raise awareness among the farmers and survey on the problems of communities are our basic purposes. In 2005, MyanDHRRA actively participated in various regional community level trainings were conducted. We could support one student for scholarship program to SEARSOLIN for the short course.

SAAM (MyanDHRRA) had been organized to be a resource pool to provide mini project for community. We translated and published the books which provide new ideas and concepts of development field to Myanmar for the development workers. We had been

selling those books to get fund for office operation at the same time used for organizing our membership in order for the organization to grow.

We conducted our Annual Meeting and elected the E.C member for the future programs and activities. During our meetings we could share our experiences and encouragement to everyone, reunited, working hand in hand and build up our capacity and promote the family spirit for the development of the needy people in Myanmar. Aside from the communities' trainings, we have our IGP, we produce jackets for the sustainability of SAAM (MyanDHRRA) and distributed to the other organization such as NGOs and GOs as souvenirs. For the networking and



*Vice-President of SAAM-MyanDHRRA is presenting ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security to the whole group*



*Discussion on coordination between NGO and Business/Private sector*

effectiveness of our development works for the needy people, we also collaborate with the other organizations for the rural development activities. In producing this jacket we intended to generate revolving fund which local communities can use for the projects such as pig-raising, slipper making

and goat-raising. From this small projects we are able to support the communities and also generate income for SAAM (MyanDHRRA). In 2005, a video presentation showcasing a series of SAAM (MyanDHRRA) activities was produced by our SAAM (MyanDHRRA) media team.

In the year 2006, with some of the money earned from selling books, we were able to rent an office and hire one full time staff. However, a year after, the office was let go due to the limited

fund. Thankfully, with the permission of the bishop, MyanDHRRA was were allowed to use the office. On June 5, 2006, Asiadhrra and Misereor approved our Proposal for Christian Farmer's Organization of Myanmar.

On March 7-8, 2008, we celebrated the 10th SAAM's Annual Meeting at YKBWA and we

elected a new set of MyanDHRRA EC members during last day SAAM Annual Meeting. 2006-2007 SAAM/MyanDHRRA progress report was able to present to AsiaDHRRA.

The following are list of E.C members.

President	Fr. Francis Than Tun (Director of Yangon Karuna)
Vice President	Ms. Kyu Khin @ Lucrecia, (ECE)
Secretary (1)	Ms. Alice Than (Karuna Taungoo)
Secretary (2)	Mr.Francis Lynnpard (Karuna Pyay)
Treasurer	Ms.Moo Mu Doh (MCC)
Auditor	Mr.Giovanni Meska (Karuna Taungoo)
Member	Mr.S.Wai Zin Aung (Myinttta Foundation)
Advisors	Rev.Kya Moo, Mr.Michael Tun Mya, Rev.Fr.David Ba Thein, Rev.Fr.Joseph Maung Win, Ms.Rose Mary, Ms.Naw Paw Gaw



Among the future plans we agreed on include, looking for SAAM office with a deadline on 20 April 2008. Agreement on Membership fee for (2007 – 1000 Kyats and for 2008 – 2000 Kyats), Publishing Searsoliners profile hand book, Proposal writing for different projects, Recruitment of qualified SAAM Coordinator, Fund raising activities by selling traditional clothes in October



*Meeting on Information sharing with SAAM/MyanDHRRA members at CBCM, Yangon on August 17, 2008*



2008, and support the development of the needy people in Myanmar (other matter will be added according to the availability of sources and office settlement).

SAAM's Annual Meeting was done at several places in different parts of the country. Now we are reaching to the 10th Anniversary of the organization. Due to the different situations and reasons like each member is having their own duty and assignments from their mother organization. They can only contribute their time and effort to the organization (MyanDHRRA) partially. Poor communication is also hampering the organization or keeps the organization being far from success.

Based on our evaluation and observation, we can see and say that the past years had been successful because of generosity of our source. At that time, we have our office settlement offered by the Bishop of Taungoo and some one to administer or guide the organization closely and the active participation of the members. However, we could not

sustain it due to our difficult situation and upon the suggestion of our members we decided to transfer the office from Taungoo to Yangon.

It is a major problem that we don't have a permanent office location and have limited fund and sources to make SAAM or MyanDHRRA grow. We need first the office and to find qualified full time coordinator who can manage and run the office effectively, and who possess or has good interpersonal and informational skills to make the organization grow.

This is very much important for us because our members are spreading over the country and it is not easy for us to see each other due to limited communication and transportation.



*MyanDHRRA board members meeting September 19, 2009*

## TaiwanDHRRA

TaiwanDHRRA continues to actively participate in network activities the past years participating in Execom Meetings, trainings and in interational development forums.

It has also actively engaged with AFA by providing it various technical assistance. It also continues to nurture its partnership with AFA's local parner, TWADA to ensure that it grows into an ever more dynamic farmers' organization.

Taiwandhrra also facilitated the intership of NPUST student Sungwei Huang to Asiadhrra and AFA and assisted in his travel to the Philippines

TaiwanDHRRA also represented the network in meetings with the World Rural Forum in Spain.

Dr. Wenchi Huang, the chairperson of TWADA also participated in the international



conference "Agriculture Outlook Asia 2009".

She is also a member of the project management team of the LSFM program and has also served as resource person in market intermediation in all of LSFM's Regional Training workshops in Vietnam, Cambodia and Philippines.



## ThaiDhrra

Thai-Dhrra has been established in Thailand for more than 30 years. At the beginning, Thai-Dhrra was more concentrated in the North of Thailand. Since then, many Thai-Dhrra groups have been built up all over the country. Some of group members became well known. Some became less active. The new and youthful members of Thai-Dhrra have now realized that Thai-Dhrra should expand its network again. The decision was made to reinvigorate and extend Thai-Dhrra's work in the Northeast, Central region and in the South of Thailand. For the past two years, Thai-Dhrra has been working in the South of Thailand.

### Activities

1. There were at least four training programmes conducted on capacity building of community leaders;
2. Co-hosting and preparing with the Thai NGOs for the civil society ASEAN meet-

ings in Thailand on two separate occasions;

3. Collaboration with the political council of Thailand to conduct training programmes on Women's Participation in Civil Society and Politics on five separate occasions.

### Results

1. Thai-Dhrra could extend its work to the Southern regions of Thailand;
2. More than 100 women had the chance to come out and participate in the four Thai-Dhrra training programmes. Most of them have enhanced their understanding about

their roles and human rights issues;

3. Thai-Dhrra could reach out to the Muslim women in the three Southern provinces which have been affected by



- the continuing violence;
4. Thai-Dhrra could make links with the NGOs in the South and government agencies such as university institutions.

### **Present activities**

In this year, Thai-Dhrra has conducted one training programme on capacity building of community leaders. This training focused on women's participation in the Southern regions of Thailand. There will be another three training programmes and two exposure programmes implemented within this year.

### **Future plan**

Thai-Dhrra would like to expand its work to the Northeastern region of Thailand in order to build up the capacity of communities and the issue of women's rights.

As for the Northern region, Thai-Dhrra would explore the potential to work with the groups there again.



## VietDHRRRA

Nineteen organization members had their own specific programs which were based on organization characteristics such as VNFU (Vietnam Farmer Union), VNWU (Vietnam Women Union), VACVINA (Vietnam Gardening Association), VCA (Vietnam Co-operative Alliance), CAEV (Center of Agricultural Extension Volunteers), VCARD (Vocational Center of Agriculture and Rural Development).

### Activities

Our activities can be grouped out as follows:

#### 1. Human resource developments

There have been totally 326 different projects mostly being operated directly with farmers in grassroots level supported by central and local governments and implemented by VietDHRRRA members.

There have been 188 training courses being conducted at grassroots level also and re-

served for farmers and local leaders. VNFU conducted in its network 85 training courses at provincial and central levels. CAEV conducted 42 training courses of which 28 courses were for farmers at village level and 14 courses were TOT for its staffs and local extension workers. Some of these training courses were supported by AWCF and FK (Norway) by sending resource persons and technical experts. Most of trainers for these training courses were researchers, senior technician and experts of our National DHRRRA network.



*Local leader training in Red River Delta*

#### 2. New and advanced techniques transfer

44 piloting sites have been set up throughout the country to demonstrate those possible technical approach which farmers



*Farmer training for Mong people in Lao Kai province*



*Farmer training for Ede people in Central Highlands*

VACVINA, VCARD, VCA, VINASTAS and CAEV with farmers' fully participation.. Many other activities of technical transfer to farmers were also organized by other members such as the "Youth programs" of VNYU ( Vietnam Youth Union ) or the "Ready to confront with negative impacts of WTO and AFTA" of VINASTAD ( Vietnam Consumer Union )...

### **3. International activities**

More than 30 exposures to outside the country were organized mostly supported by donors of projects or invited by international or regional NGOs like CORDAID, MISE-REOR, AsiaDHRRA, AWCF, SEACON, ICA.

can apply in their production, especially their households' VAC ( garden, fish pond and animal shelter ). Seminars, workshops and exchange visits were conducted directly by VietDHRRA members like VNFU, VNWU,

It is going to be the third GA of VietDHRRRA. Members are trying their best to make more and more successes orienting and making the GA a meaning full event.

The past three years (2008-2010) All 19 organization members of VietDHRRRA had to operate their action plans in many special conditions and environment.

These specialities can be outlined as followings:

### Advantages

1. The government of Vietnam has launched many National Programs and Government projects to support Human

Resource Development for Rural Areas, and due attention has been paid for poor and poorest people such as indigenous people, farmers in mountainous regions or farmers who live in remote areas. Most

of these governmental programs and project were implemented by local governments.

2. The office of VietDHRRRA and some other member like VNFU, VNWU, VNYU, VCA, ACVINA... still have their own project supported by their donors outside the country such as AsiaDHRRRA, AWCF, SEACON, CORDAID, MISEREOR, FK, WRF, IFAD.

3. We have gotten many lessons and experiences in contacting and working with the government. We could have governmental

*Farmer training for Khemer people in Mekong Delta*



supports, governmental budget, governmental agreements even governmental collaboration but we didn't let the government to interfere into our work.

We could certainly keep up our independent policies.

In our turn we also successfully conducted advocacies of our own and of government rural policies and farmer policies.

### **Disadvantages and difficulties**

1. All of our 19 members are NGO and Mass Movement which according to Vietnamese laws must be non-business and non-profitable. We can not raise our own fund. Every budget project of us is managed strictly by the government or by our donors. Even members can not have money

enough to pay their due for VietDHRRA. We hope that in the future we can find our separate sources for managing our own activities.

2. The past three years in Vietnam farmers had too much natural calamities such as typhoons, and unpredictable temperatures. Each year we had 6-7 typhoons coming from the East Sea which destroyed infrastructures, crops, animal and killed hundreds of people.

Flood and drought damaged not only crops and animal but caused soil erosion and landslides and forest fire...

The very bad situation like the one happened in the last three years had never happened so far for 100 years.



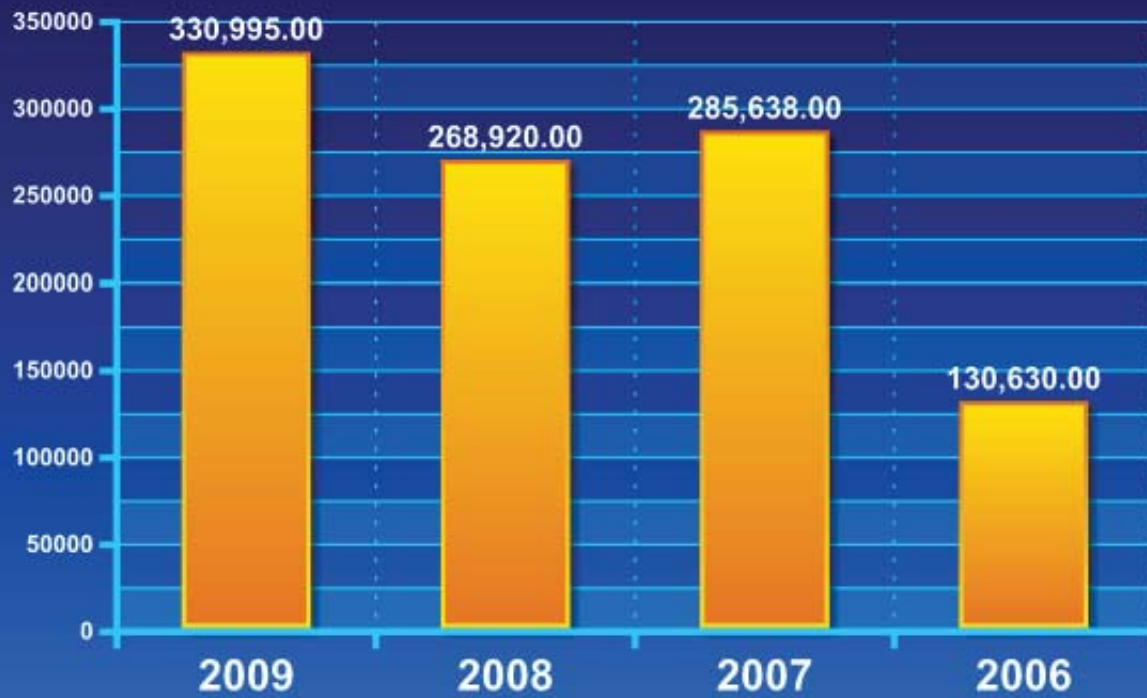
*Farmer group visited Taiwan*





**FINANCIAL** 2008 - 2009  
**HIGHLIGHTS**

## Comparative Revenues ( 2006-2009) in US\$

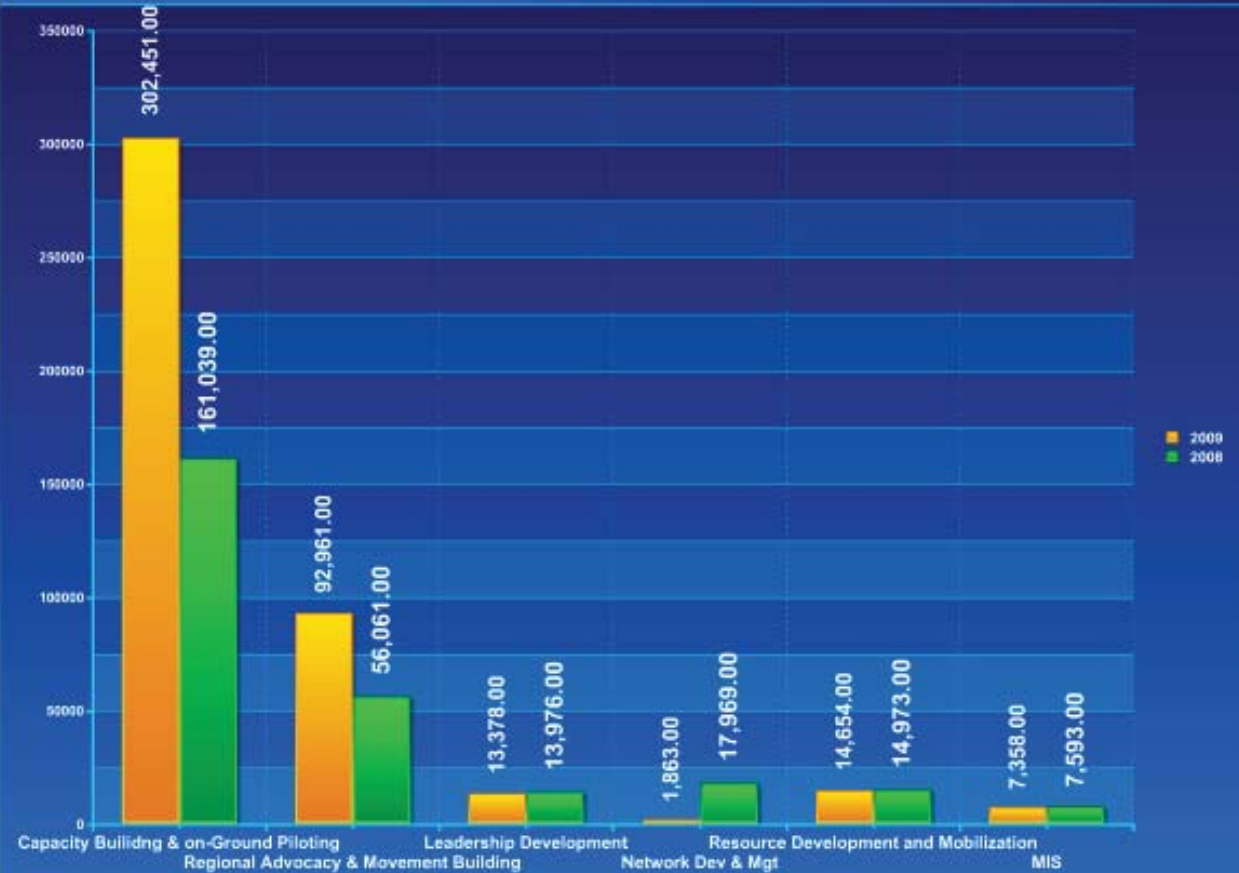


## General Breakdown of Expenses in US\$



### Breakdown of Direct Program Expenses

(In US \$)





2008 - 2009 NETWORK  
GOVERNANCE



## Executive Committee

Chairperson: Mr. Marimuthu Nadason  
Vice Chairperson, Southeast Asia: Mr. Jaybee Garganera  
Vice Chairperson, North Asia: Dr. Sung Lee  
Vice Chairperson, Mekong: Mr. Sil Vineth  
Women Representative: Dr. Wenchi Huang and Ms. Dwi Astuti  
Secretary General (Ex-Officio): Ms. Marlene D. Ramirez



## Secretariat

Secretary General: Ms. Marlene D. Ramirez  
Program Officers: Ms. Elena V. Rebagay, Mr. Nonoy Villas and Mr. Jet Hermida  
Finance Officer: Ms. Lorna M. David  
Accountant: Ms. Jocelyn D. Dalino  
Contracted Services: Mr. Samuel Maduro, Mr. Rey Encarnacion