

2012 ISSAAS International Symposium & Congress

Bicol University, Legazpi City, Albay, Philippines

November 13-16, 2012

International Society for Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences (ISSAAS)

in collaboration with

Society for Agricultural Education Research Development Abroad (SAEDA)

Bicol University (BU)

*"Pushing Agriculture to Achieve
the Millennium Development Goals"*

Conference Rationale

In 2000, the member states of the United Nations adopted the Millennium Declaration as a commitment to human development. The Declaration includes eight (8) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as targets for improving the lives of millions of poor people; namely, (a) eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; (b) achieve universal primary education; (c) promote gender equality and empower women; (d) reduce child mortality; (e) improve maternal health; (f) combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; (g) ensure environmental sustainability; and (h) develop a global partnership for development.

Agriculture plays a very important role in helping achieve the MDG targets given that about 70% of the poor live in the rural areas, where also the largest proportion of the food insecure live. It is thus evident that food insecurity cannot significantly and sustainably be reduced without transforming the living conditions in these areas. The solution lies in increasing agricultural profitability of the smallholder farmers and creating rural off-farm employment opportunities. This will also allow them with their higher incomes to send their children to school.

The promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women is also a major issue in the rural sector since a substantial number of farmers in the Third World are women who are asset poor and have limited access to the agricultural production resources. Child mortality and the incidence of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases are often highest in the rural areas due to lack of access to health services and maternal care and the lack of food and poor nutrition among the members of the rural families. Many share a common belief that the means to address these concerns is by allowing women the opportunity to participate profitably in enhancing productivity in the agriculture sector. Economic empowerment through greater access to productive agricultural resources among the women will enable them to pay more attention to their health and physical well-being.

The increase in occurrence of climate-related natural disasters has intensified renewed calls for actions to protect the environment. Agriculture is seen both as a contributor to and a means to address the problems related to environmental degradation. A unified global action is needed to address issues related to climate change, declining biodiversity and the loss of critical natural habitats among others to ensure a more sustainable development. Agriculture is a very important avenue to address environmental sustainability and for forging global partnerships for development.

Conference Objectives

The objectives of the conference are:

- (a) To promote greater awareness on the MDGs as targets for improving the lives of millions of poor and disadvantaged people;
- (b) To examine the role of agriculture in achieving the MDGs; and
- (c) To share and exchange information on agriculture-related programs and projects implemented in support of the MDGs.

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Call for Paper/Poster Abstracts

The International Society for Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences in collaboration with Bicol University and ISSAAS Bicol Chapter is inviting scholars and researchers to submit papers or posters that will address the following thematic areas:

- Food Security and Poverty Reduction
- Enhancing Agribusiness Enterprises
- Climate Risk Management and Sustainable Agriculture
- Strategic Partnership in Agricultural Development
- Support Services for a Productive Agriculture
- R&D Governance System in Agriculture

The abstract shall be written in English not exceeding 250 words. Manuscripts should be prepared as follows: official size bond paper (8.5 x 11 in.); single spaced, Arial font size 11 in Microsoft Word format; 1½ inches for left margin and 1 inch for right, top and bottom margins. The top of the page shall contain the title of the paper in bold capital letters as well as the names of the authors and their affiliations, all centered on the page width. Oral paper presentation and discussions is limited to 15 minutes.

Posters should conform to the following format: (a) size - 30" x 40"; (b) orientation - portrait layout; (c) material - tarpaulin (d) color mix - shall fit to a light display background; and (e) content layout - freestyle. The general content shall include: (a) Title, Researcher/s, and Institutional Affiliation; (b) Introduction; (c) Materials and Methods; (d) Results and Discussion; (e) Conclusions and Recommendations; and (f) Literature Citations and Acknowledgment. The deadline for submission of the abstracts is **August 31, 2012**. This can be sent by e-mail to issaasbicol@gmail.com with the subject **Abstract for 2012 ISSAAS**. Authors should indicate in their registration forms whether they prefer an oral or poster presentation. The Committee on Paper Presentation, however, reserves the right to decide on the final form of presentation. The presenters will be advised by email on the acceptance of their paper submissions by October 5, 2012 at the latest. All inquiries regarding paper submissions may be directed to the Conference Secretariat at issaasbicol.consec@gmail.com. Accepted abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings.

Registration Fee

The registration fee for international members is USD 150 and P 3,600.00 for local participants. Lunch, snacks, and conference kits will be provided to registered participants. There shall be no on-site payment of registration fees except for the officers of the ISSAAS local chapters and official delegates of ISSAAS International. The receipt of bank transfer slip and confirmation from the Chapter Treasurer is a requirement for final acceptance of papers for presentation. Payment of registration fee shall be made on or before **October 15, 2012** at Banco de Oro-Daraga Branch indicating the following bank account information:

Account Name: International Society for Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences (ISSAAS) - Bicol Chapter
Account Number: 5940032975
Swift Code: BNORPHMM

Conference Venue

The opening program of the conference will be at St. Ellis Hotel in Legazpi City. Break-out session for paper presentation will be in Bicol University in Legazpi City. St. Ellis Hotel and Bicol University are 5-10 minutes away from Legazpi Domestic Airport.

Hotel Accomodation

Participants are advised to have their own hotel booking. A list of hotels will be sent to all participants.