

MEDIUM TERM COOPERATION PROGRAM WITH FARMERS' ORGANIZATION  
IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION PHASE 2 (MTCP2) - AFOSP



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

SOUTHEAST ASIA  
AND CHINA

CONSORTIUM ASIAN FARMERS' ASSOCIATION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT (AFA)  
AND LA VIA CAMPESINA (LVC)



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## ABOUT MEDIUM-TERM COOPERATION PROGRAMME WITH FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION PHASE 2 (MTCP2)

The Farmers' Forum (FaFo) which was established in 2005 is an ongoing dialogue between IFAD and the small-scale women and men farmers. The forum aims to strengthen the partnership and collaboration between IFAD and FOs in country programmes, investment projects and in building FO capacity. In support to farmers forum, projects are established to strengthen the FOs and activities in the field. Thus, the first phase of the Medium Term Cooperation Program for Farmers Organizations in Asia and Pacific (MTCP1) was implemented from 2009 to 2012. The second phase of the Medium-Term Cooperation Programme with Farmers' Organizations in Asia and the Pacific Region – Phase 2 (MTCP2) was approved by IFAD on 12 June, 2013, and the Large Grant Agreement became effective on 4 September, 2013. The Programme's completion date is 30 September, 2018, and the financing closing date 31 March, 2019. The Programme builds on lessons learned from the MTCP1, which was in part implemented by FAO.

**Objectives:** MTCP2 aims to further strengthen the capacities of farmers' organizations (FOs) in Asia and the Pacific to deliver better, improved and inclusive services to their members and to engage in effective dialogues with governments, thereby making FOs more viable, responsive and accountable to their members, more respected by their partners and with greater participation in policy-making and program implementation processes of governments and IFAD country operations. Its primary beneficiaries are smallholder farmers who are current or potential members of participating FOs. The MTCP2 is benefiting 200 national FOs as members of the national platforms/forums in the 17 participating countries in the three sub- regions (South-East Asia + China, South Asia and Pacific Regions). This includes 1045 sub-national FOs, together representing an estimated membership of about 22 million individual farmers, consisting of about 13 million members in South-East Asia + China, about 9 million in South Asia, and about 0.025 million in the Pacific sub-region.

**Components:** The Programme is articulated around four components: (i) Component 1 - Strengthen FOs and their networks; (ii) Component 2 - Support participation of FOs in policy processes; (iii) Component 3 - FO Services and Involvement in Agricultural Development Programmes ; and (iv) Component 4 - Programme management and coordination.

**Geographical coverage:** The MTCP2 is evolving in terms of geographical coverage and implementation modalities, aiming to increase the benefits of its actions to a larger number of farmers' organizations in the region, and also to enhance the FOs' ownership - both at regional and national level - in the implementation of the Programme's activities. Therefore, MTCP 2 has expanded its geographical coverage within South Asia and South East Asia, and has opened it to the Pacific Region.

**Implementation modalities:** The programme is based on national platforms grouping all farmers' organisations of each country deciding their own annual work plan and facilitated by a national implementing agency. Each sub-region is coordinated by a Sub-regional implementation agency (ANFPA, LVC/AFA and PIFON and the whole regional MTCP2 is under the coordination of the Regional Implementing agency managed by the consortium of AFA/LVC. RIA and SRIAs are farmer organisations, selected through a competitive process to ensure direct implementation of the Programme's activities.

The total programme base cost is estimated as of now for a total of USD 19,178,000. Programme costs are co-financed by an IFAD grant of US\$ 2 million (10% of total costs), a grant from SDC of US\$ 3 million (16% of total costs) and a contribution of EU (through AFOSP programme, see below) of US\$ 10 million (52% of total costs).

Additional EU funds focusing on the ASEAN sub region: the AFOSP. On 12 June 2015, MTCP2 received a new grant of EUR 7.4 million [= USD 8.3 million] under an agreement signed between the European Union (EU) and IFAD for the funding of the Asian Farmers' Organisations Support Programme (AFOSP) and Medium Term Cooperation Programme Phase 2 and regional policy dialogue in Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region (AFOSP/MTCP2 ASEAN). The EU contribution through AFOSP/MTCP2 ASEAN is focused on the ASEAN sub-region; it is one of the two pillars of the global EU-funded AFOSP programme supporting MTCP2 and AgriCord under the AFOSP/FFP ASEAN grant agreement. The AFOSP was launched in September 2015. The recipient of the grant and implementing agency for the AFOSP/MTCP2 is AFA in partnership with LVC as SRIA. The funds will be downloaded to NIAs.

To learn more on MTCP2, visit our website: <http://www.asiapacificfarmersforum.com>

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## ACRONYMS USED

<b>AFA</b>	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development
<b>AFOSP</b>	ASEAN Farmers' Organization Strengthening Program
<b>AFFM</b>	Association of Farmers Federation in Myanmar
<b>ANAPROFIKO</b>	National Association of Commercial Seed Producers
<b>ANPFa</b>	All Nepal Peasant Federation
<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>AsiaDHRRA</b>	Asian Partnership for the Development of Human resources in Rural Areas
<b>AWPB</b>	Annual Workplan and Budget
<b>CSA</b>	Climate Resilient Agriculture
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>DAR</b>	Department of Agrarian Reform
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FACT</b>	Farmers Advocacy and Consultation Tool
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization
<b>FAO APRC</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization – Asia Pacific Regional Conference
<b>FNN</b>	Farmers and Nature Network
<b>FO</b>	Farmers' Organization
<b>FSA</b>	Farm Support Association
<b>FU</b>	Farmers' Union
<b>GAFFSP</b>	Global Agriculture and Food Security Program
<b>GCARD3</b>	Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development
<b>CGIAR</b>	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
<b>GMO</b>	Genetically Modified Organism
<b>GroFed</b>	Growers' Federation of Tonga, Inc.
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>IRR</b>	Implementing Rules and Regulations
<b>KGA</b>	Kastom Gaden Association
<b>KM</b>	Knowledge Management
<b>LEAP</b>	Laos Extension for Agriculture Program

<b>LFN</b>	Lao Farmers' Network
<b>LURAS</b>	Lao Upland Rural Advisory Service
<b>LVC</b>	La Via Campesina
<b>LWF</b>	Lutheran World Federation
<b>MFF</b>	Myanmar Fishery Federation
<b>MTR</b>	Medium Term Review
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MTCP2</b>	Medium Term Cooperation Program Phase Two
<b>NAC/NSC</b>	National Advisory Committee / National Steering Committee
<b>NAPC</b>	National Anti-Poverty Commission
<b>NFA</b>	National Food Authority
<b>NIA</b>	National Implementing Agency
<b>NSC</b>	National Steering Committee
<b>NWC</b>	Nature's Way Cooperative
<b>NWP</b>	Netherlands Water Partnership
<b>PARO</b>	Provincial Agrarian Reform Office
<b>PCA</b>	Philippine Coconut Authority
<b>PIFON</b>	Pacific Island Farmers' Organization Network
<b>PNG</b>	Papua New Guinea
<b>PWC</b>	Philippine Women Commission
<b>RECOFTC</b>	The Center for People and Forests
<b>REDD</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
<b>RIA</b>	Regional Implementing Agency
<b>TA</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>TRTC</b>	Tutu Rural Training Center
<b>TTT</b>	Tei Tei Taveuni
<b>SA</b>	South Asia
<b>SAGDD</b>	Summary of Activities with Gender Disaggregated Data
<b>SEA</b>	Southeast Asia
<b>SEARICE</b>	Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment
<b>SEWA</b>	Self-Employed Women's Association

<b>SKP</b>	SorKorPor Farmers' Federation for Development Thailand
<b>SRIA</b>	Sub-Regional Implementing Agency
<b>SRSC</b>	Sub-regional Steering Committee
<b>TTT</b>	Tei Tei Taveuni
<b>VCOPA</b>	Virgin Coconut Oil Producers' Association
<b>VNFU</b>	Vietnam Farmers' Union
<b>WA</b>	Withdrawal Application
<b>WiADF</b>	Women in Agriculture Development Foundation

comed into PIFON, ANAPROFIKO of Timor Leste was formally accepted and signed an LOA to receive funds through the MTCP II program for its capacity building and support of its Strategic Plan that it filed



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

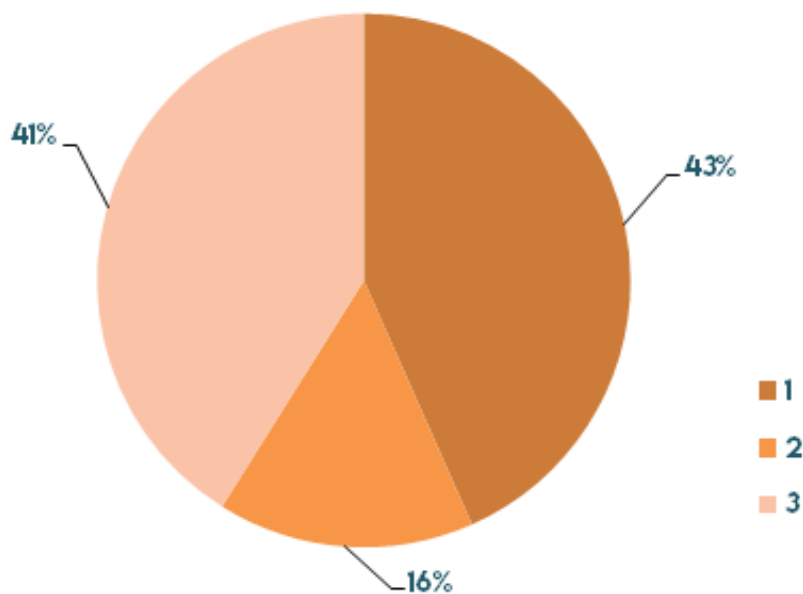
1. The ASEAN Economic Community was launched in 31 December 2015. This is to achieve the vision of a “stable, prosperous and competitive region” founded on five principles of free flow of goods, services, investment, capital and skilled labor. This potentially poses a large market that would be good for producers such as farmers and fishers. However, agricultural produce of small farmers may not be able to compete with cheaper products from more advanced countries.
2. MTCP2/AFOSP FOs consider transforming into agricultural cooperatives to respond to the challenges and opportunities that the AEC brings about. In March 2016, AFA-LVC in partnership with AF and PROCASUR conducted the Alternative Learning Route on Agricultural Cooperatives (ALRAC). Follow-up activities came up in November and December during the ACBF and Post-ACBF where MTCP2/AFOSP FOs actively took part in. AFA participated in the steering committee of the ACBF led by the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA).
3. Two other important regional activities include the Medium Term Review from March to May and the Regional Steering Committee in June. MTR results were shared during the RSC where SEA NIAs accepted all the findings and recommendations. Major MTR recommendations include increase in component 3 achievements especially in the areas of value chain, accessing services from government/academe/CSOs/funding partners; devising a way to measure gains from advocacy and supporting this with stories; and exploring the possibility of setting up an attribution system on MTCP2/AFOSP outcomes.
4. SEA was able to conduct scoping study in Thailand for expansion of the platform at the sub-regional and regional levels.
5. Major achievements of component 1 include: (1) providing the opportunity for farmers to work together, get organized and claim their rights as a sector; (2) providing a general direction for farmers organizations through the strategic planning sessions; and (3) an increasing women farmers’ participation.
6. Component 2 achievements is not easy to quantify; but through the awareness evoked and campaigns launched by the FOs together with other allies and like-minded organizations, they were able to claim rights to land, get support and services from the government, had the agriculture budget increased, and increase the number of farmers practicing pesticide-free farming.
7. Key component 3 achievements include cooperation agreement with development partners on projects that will capacitate the farmers mitigate the impact of international trade agreements. Other achievements include completion of research/study on value chain thereby enabling the farmers organizations prioritize crops and commodities for value chain.
8. Total women participation across countries and components reached 38 percent, for adult female alone and 52 percent if both adult and young female participants are added together. Youth participation reached a total of 25 percent if both young male and young female are added.
9. Better strategies must be employed to ensure that component 3 agenda is put forward and result to concrete economic gains for member farmers.
10. As per the recommendation of MTR that was agreed during the RSC, the SEA sub-region shall be managed at the RIA level. Additional staff to be based in Manila will be hired for the additional load of work for RIA.



## IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS BY COMPONENT

### OVERALL PROGRESS

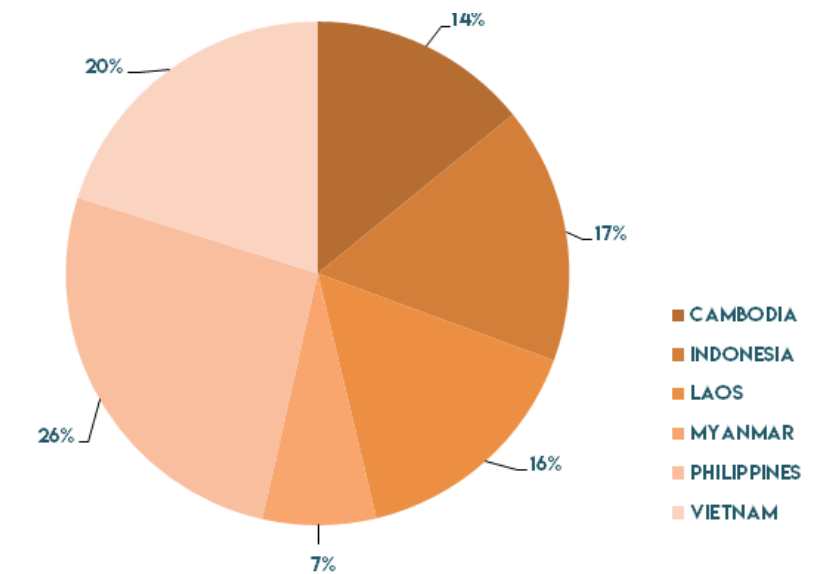
As the programme reaches its mid-term, implementers need to take a look into important indicators that would lead to achieving its goals of alleviating the poverty of small holder farmers. For 2016, Southeast Asia NIAs agreed to focus on delivery of economic services to their members by strengthening commodity-based value chain and re-structuring/transforming FOs into agricultural cooperatives. This move is further supported by AFOSP allocation of 35-27-38 percent of budget for components 1, 2, and 3, respectively.



**Figure 1. Percent Activities Conducted per Component, SEA**

Activities in Southeast Asia are mostly under components 1 and 3. Component 1 activities (41 percent) are largely organizational and operational meetings, network meetings and workshops, and skills enhancement. Component 3 activities (41 percent) are meetings and workshops with government and development organizations to access and expand FOs' support to its members. Component 2 activities include dialogue with government agencies to discuss issues and negotiate for projects; forum to raise awareness of farmers and the public on land issues; and conduct survey to identify priorities.

Philippines conducted the most number of activities for 2016, not surprisingly because there are nine national FOs in the platform, each one implementing their own organizational activities aside from the NIA-initiated/national level activities.

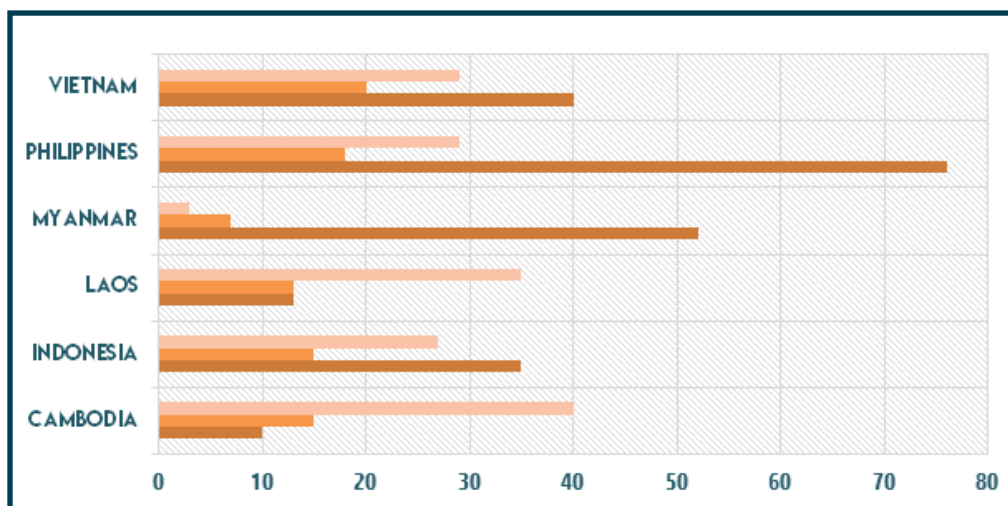


**Figure 2. Activities conducted per Country**

Myanmar appears to have the least activities, but only because it was not able to report all the activities for 2016.

Cambodia conducted the most component 3 activities. Most of these are provincial meetings with partners and government agencies. Vietnam conducted the most number of component 2 activities. Most of these are research on value chain and meeting-discussion on issues like land rights.

Laos did not encounter major challenges in 2016. In fact, they were able to access support from IFAD country program in organizing provincial farmer network workshop and the documentation of good farming practices.



**Figure 3. Country activities per component**



Youth and women participation is strong in component 1. The bulk of figures came from the participants to the meetings in Cambodia. Component 3 participation is higher compared to component 2. It would have been higher had all NIAs been able to segregate data for youth as they did for women.

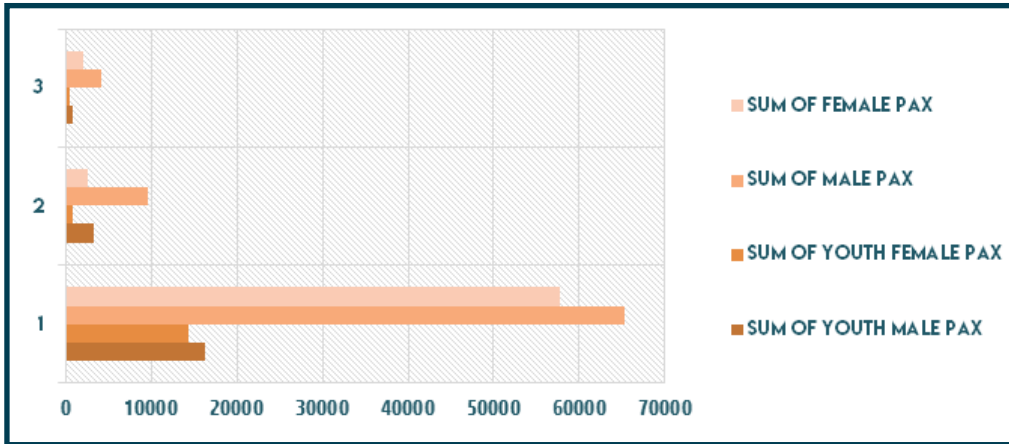


Figure 4. Youth and Female Participation per component, SEA

Because of the high participation of farmers in meetings in Cambodia, the country reflected the highest amount of farmers' counterpart. This only reflects the daily lost income for farmers' attendance to activities.

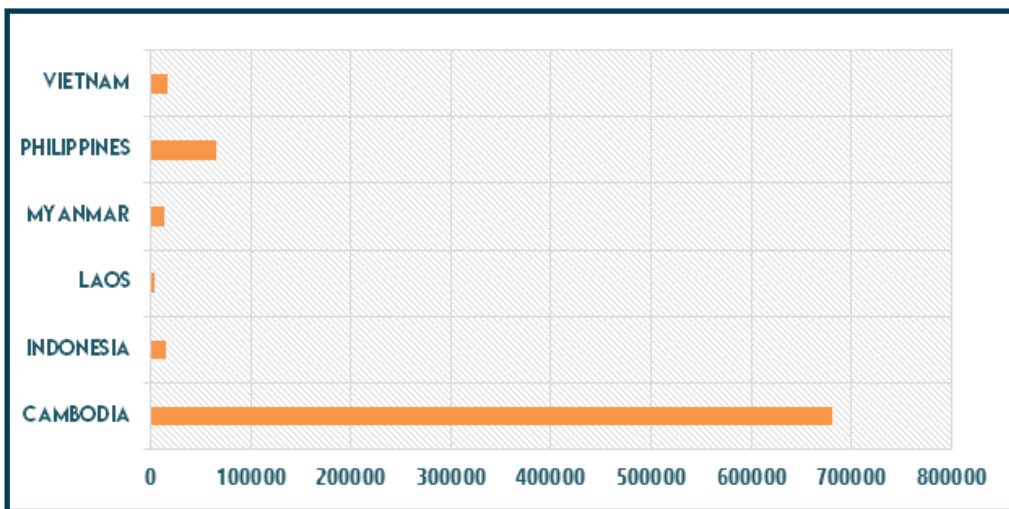


Figure 5. Farmers' Counterpart in Southeast Asia

What is not reflected in the charts are the other counterparts that farmers provide in preparation for, and in the conduct of activities, which is a common practice in Southeast Asia.

Forms of counterpart include:

- local transportation that farmers no longer reimbursed from FOs and NIAs
- transportation and meals to arrange for meeting venues and to attend meetings

- use of farmers' house and provision of snacks for meetings
- use of meeting halls and other village facilities for activities and meetings
- plane fare and accommodation in some activities

## COMPONENT 1. ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTHENING

To strengthen the organization and its operations, FOs conducted strategic planning, general assembly, partnership meeting, trainings to capacitate the organization (bookkeeping, financial management, and leadership training to name a few). The figure below shows the percent share of each country in component 1 activities.

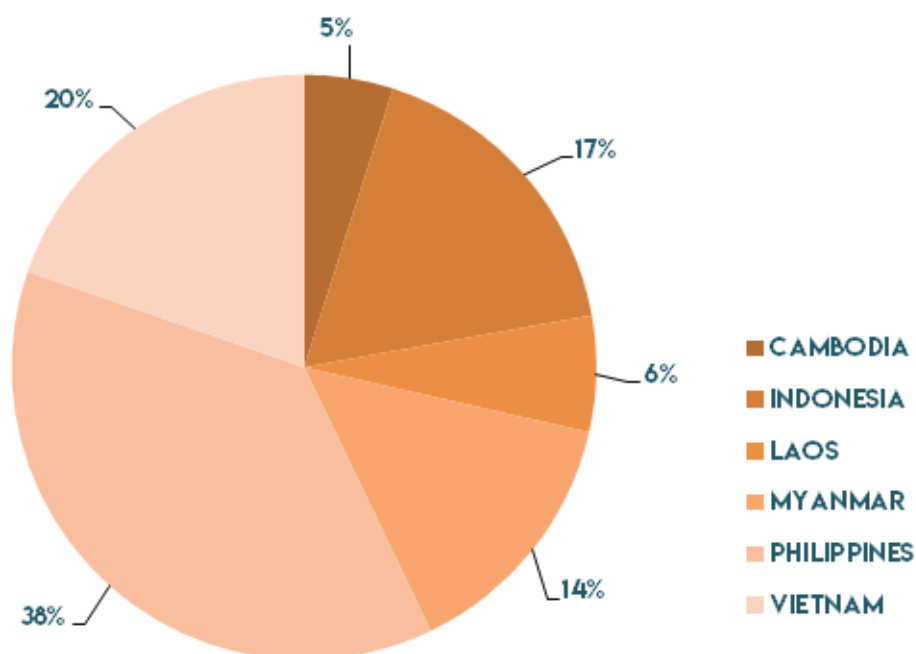
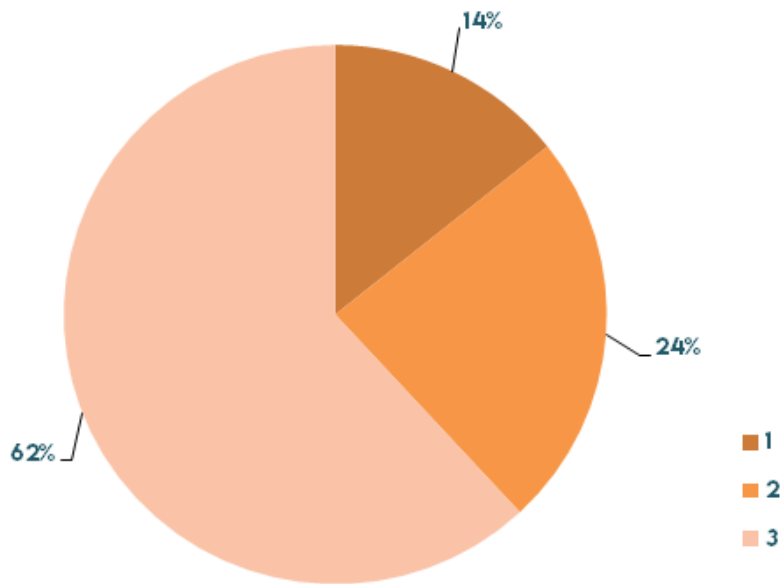


Figure 6. Component 1 Activities per Country

### CAMBODIA

Component 1 comprises 14 percent of total activities in Cambodia. These activities include the following:

- ⇒ five training-workshops (leadership, TOT and value chain)
- ⇒ registration of FOs under agriculture cooperative law
- ⇒ meeting to discuss regrouping and build capacity of specialized production groups

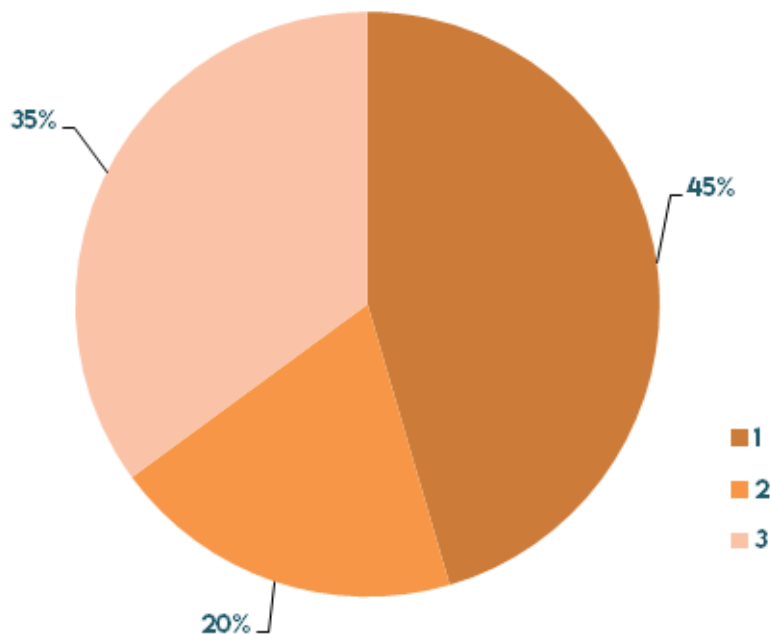


**Figure 7. Activities conducted per component, Cambodia**

Out of component 1 activities, FOs and NIA in Cambodia were able to train 1,275 farmers (75 youth male, 75 youth female, 730 male and 395 female). A total of 143,179 farmers participated in component 1 activities (14,812 young male, 13,717 young female, 59,682 male and 54,968 female).

## INDONESIA

Component 1 activities comprise 45 percent of the total, and these are: 16 training workshops, 10 consultations, 7 technical assistance, and an organizational review.



**Figure 8. Activities per Component, Indonesia**

These activities involved a total of 4,624 farmers, 22 percent are female (6 percent youth; 16 percent adult) and 24 percent are youth (18 percent youth male; 6 percent youth female).

Results of these activities include the following:

- ⇒ Strategic plan was formulated/reviewed
- ⇒ Strengthened network between Onion farmer in Cilacap, Lampung, Brebes, Jogjakarta
- ⇒ response to specific issues as a result of consultation at the district, provincial and national levels
- ⇒ strengthened competencies of leaders on strategic planning, cooperative management, and business planning and feasibility studies
- ⇒ knowledge on post-harvest processing and quality management system
- ⇒ different grassroots sectors came together to take part in the consultations to formulate policies for human rights especially of rural folks, implementation of agriculture policies, protection of small farmers, strategies to improve farmers' productivity, improving access and promoting food sovereignty at the national and local level.
- ⇒ National Farmer Leaders had a dialogue with president Joko Widodo. The president committed to fulfill the aspirations of farmers to accelerate implementation of land reform, to develop national food institution, to improve distribution and tread system of agriculture for small farmer in rural areas.

## LAOS

Component 1 activities in Laos composed 18 percent of the total. These activities include workshop to establish provincial networks, training on financial management and computerized accounting system, and ICT training to introduce the use of smart phones and social media in marketing and promotion of products. Highlight of component 1 is the setting up of provincial network of FOs in eight provinces (Vientiane, Bolikhamsay, Hoaphan, Sayaburi, Oudomxay, Attapue, Saravane and Sekong) and there are now 60 new FOs in three provinces. These meetings were chaired by LFN and leaders of the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office with at least 20 FOs across the participating provinces. These workshops established the connection between farmers and local government.

The general assembly is another major activity during which LFN reviewed its performance, discussed its strategic plan, approved the annual plan, and elected new management committee members. Government official and FOs interested to join the network witnessed the GA.

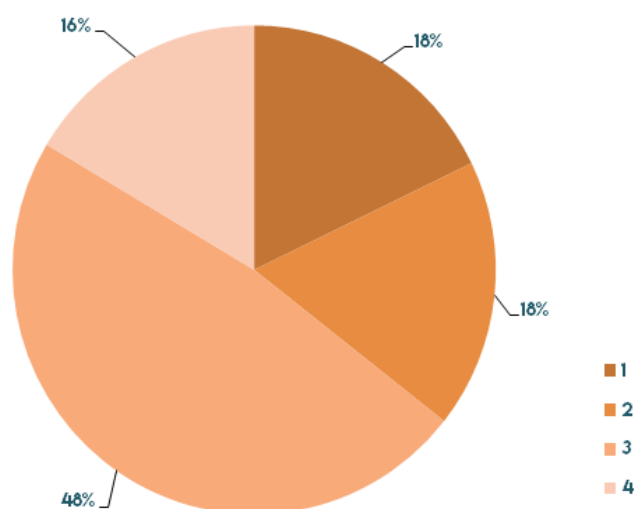


Figure 9. Activities conducted per component, Laos

Major outcomes of component 1 activities are:

- ⇒ installation of quick books and staff trained on this computerized accounting system
- ⇒ nine farmer leaders have familiarized themselves on the use of communication applications on smart phones (email, Facebook, what's app, and line)
- ⇒ approval of new six members to the network
- ⇒ approval of 2017 plans by the general assembly
- ⇒ setting up of network between farmers and government in eight provinces
- ⇒ organized 60 new FOs in three provinces

## VIETNAM

Component 1 comprise 41 percent of total activities. These activities include 21 meetings, 12 exchange visits, and 7 market research.

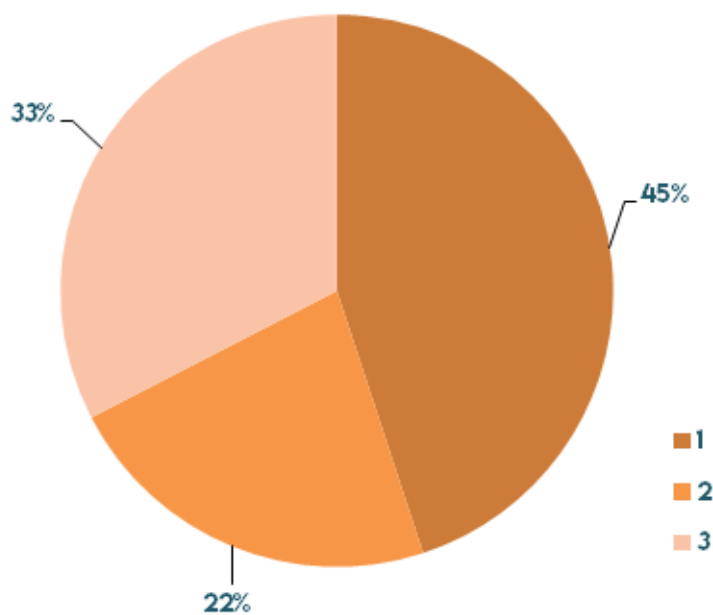
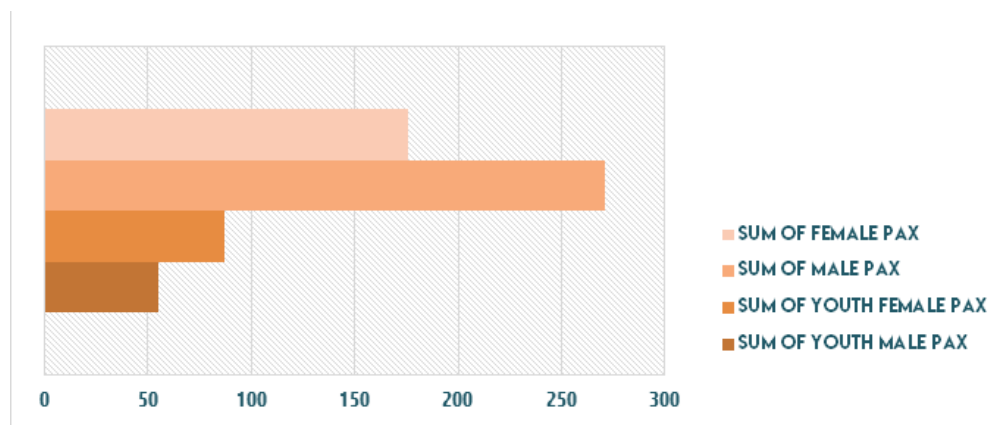


Figure 10. Activities per Component, Vietnam



**Figure 11. Youth and Female Participation in component 1, Vietnam**

About 24 percent of total participants are youth male and female. Total female participants including youth reached 44.7 percent, way beyond the 30 percent project target. Activities with most number of young farmers are those that involve meeting/dialogue with other countries like Japan and Czechoslovakia. These same activities also have high participation from women farmers.

These activities yielded the following results:

- ⇒ 15 provincial FUs reviewed their 2016 partnership with provincial government agencies and peoples' committees and planned for a better 2017 cooperation
- ⇒ partnership with Netherlands on dragon fruit value chain and access to loans for agriculture and rural development
- ⇒ possible future partnership with other stakeholders (Google Asia Pacific, Agriterra, Horimasa Cooperation of Japan, and Japan East Asia Institute)
- ⇒ farmer-to-farmer learning exchange generated experience-based and practical lessons in various aspects of business: (1) agriculture techniques like cattle feeding, chicken feeding, orchid and mushroom growing; (2) management of collective economy models; and (3) effective management of a cooperative
- ⇒ 12 cooperative groups with 6 value chains conducted market research which resulted to improved business plans which in turn improves the position of the cooperative groups

## MYANMAR

Myanmar, understandably a young organization, focused its efforts in component 1 (82 percent) to strengthen its base. This resulted to increase in registered regional level FOs from three in 2015 to five in 2016. Four more are eligible for regional level FO but the present administration put the registration process on hold. AFFM hopes to have the other regions registered in 2017.

A total of 2,943 farmers took part in component 1 activities in Myanmar, 16.2 percent are young male, 9.6 percent are young female, 56 percent are male and 18.2 percent are female. These activities are mostly organizing of FOs at the village and township level, meetings and training-workshops.

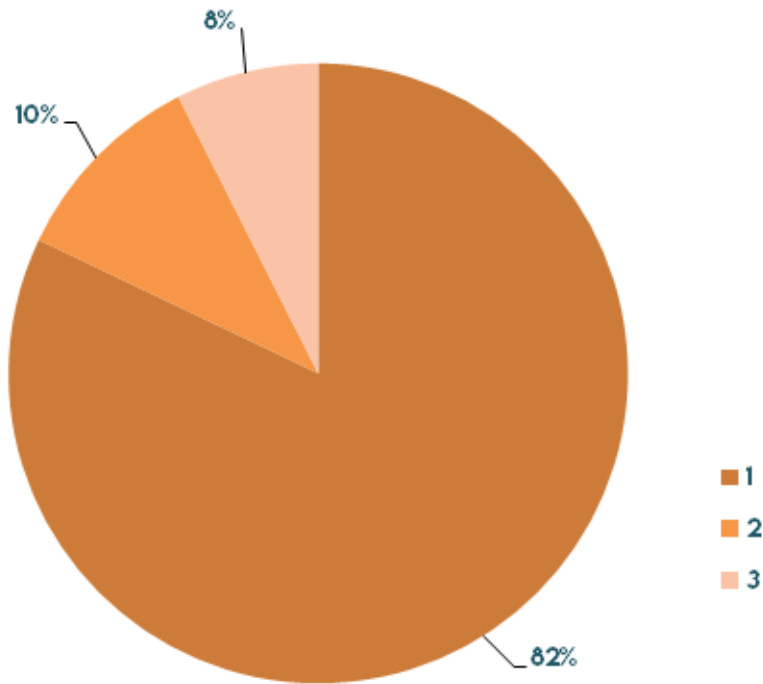


Figure 12. Activities per Component, Myanmar

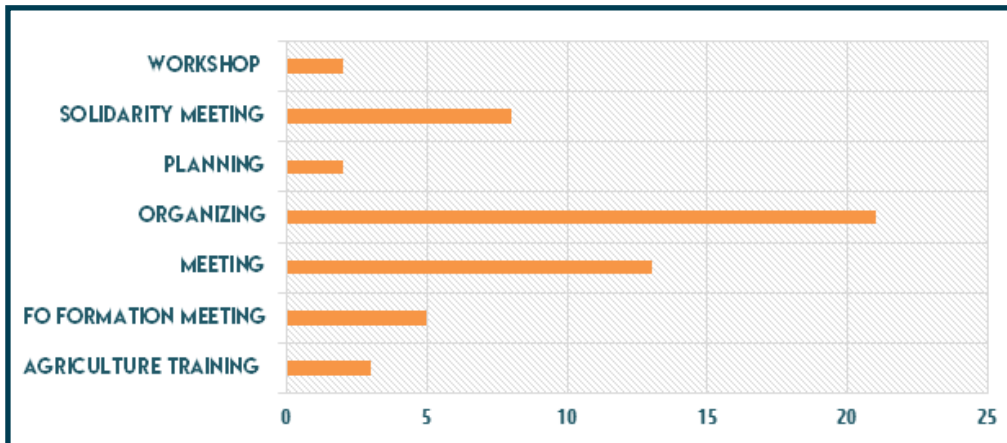


Figure 13. Type of Component 1 Activities, Myanmar

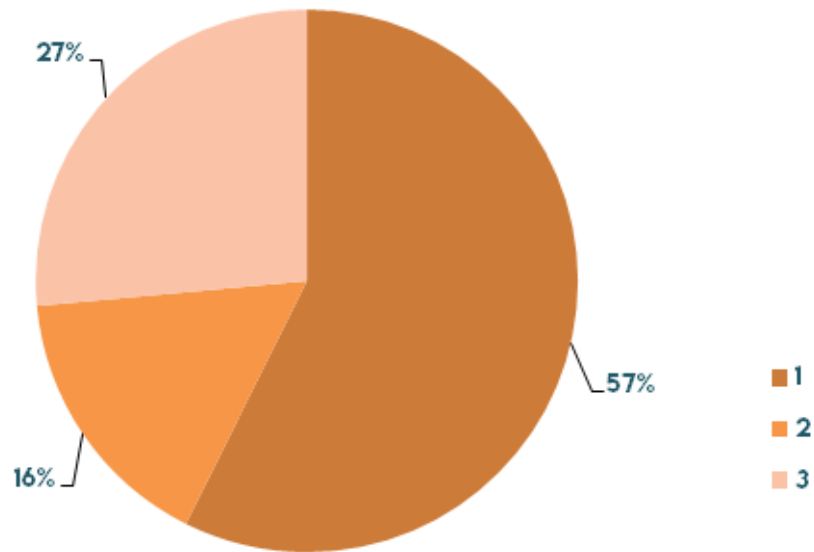
Component 1 activities produced 12 new village level farmers' union, registered 14 existing village level and three township level farmers' union. Two new village level unions sought the help of AFFM in solving land confiscation problem (note that the President of AFFM is a lawyer actively assisting farmers to regain their farm lands). AFFM also drafted the Naga Labor Union constitution.

AFFM was also able to formulate its three-year strategic plan which was approved during the general assembly.

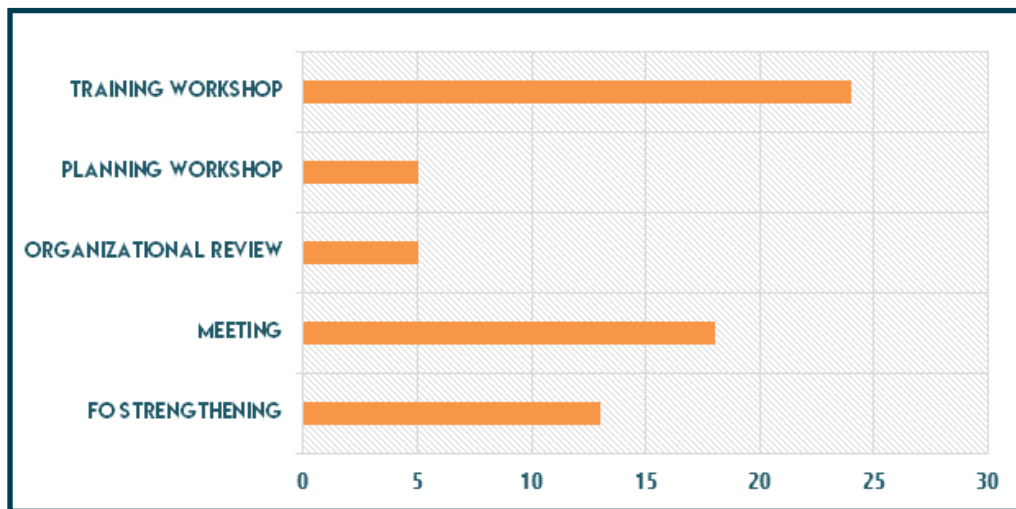
**PHILIPPINES**

Large chunk of activities in the Philippines are under component 1, primarily because some of the nine FOs in the platform are re-invigorating their organizations which includes meetings, trainings, re-activation of registration in the government and opening of new bank accounts.

Meetings revolved around management of the organization, supervision of the programme, and identification of priorities/planning. Trainings and capability building activities tackle topics such as finance, knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, organizational management and development, needs assessment, leadership and climate change.



**Figure 14. Activities conducted per component, Philippines**



**Figure 15. Types of component 1 activities, Philippines**



These activities produced the following outcomes:

- ⇒ A total of 1,252 registered members are now re-registered with complete baseline information (63 percent of the target 2,000); 15 percent of re-registered members paid membership dues
- ⇒ Management Committee members reviewed the accomplishments for the year 2015, reviewed the strategic plan for 2016-2022 and set the priorities for the year 2016
- ⇒ Climate change trainers, also called climate warriors, were trained on renewable energy
- ⇒ Legal permits and registration successfully acquired
- ⇒ Strategic network established with potential partner organizations

## CHINA

There is almost a balanced distribution of activities conducted across four components, with component 4 slightly higher than the other components (30 percent) and component 2 slightly lower than the other components (20 percent). Component 4 activities are categorized into three types: planning, advocacy and monitoring visits. Advocacy refers to promotion of agricultural cooperatives and their activities, sharing of announcement related to cooperatives from the government to the target farmer-readers.

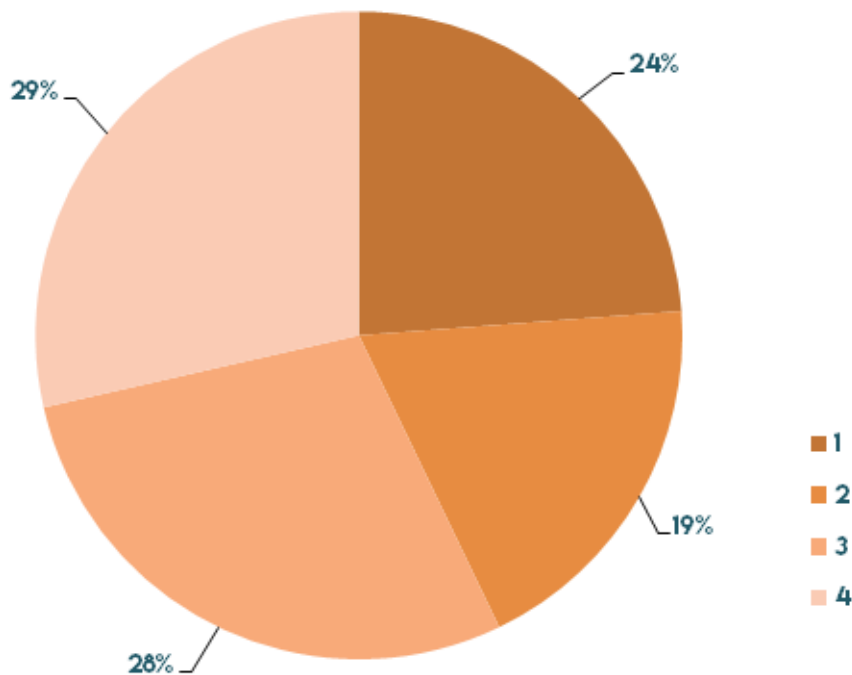
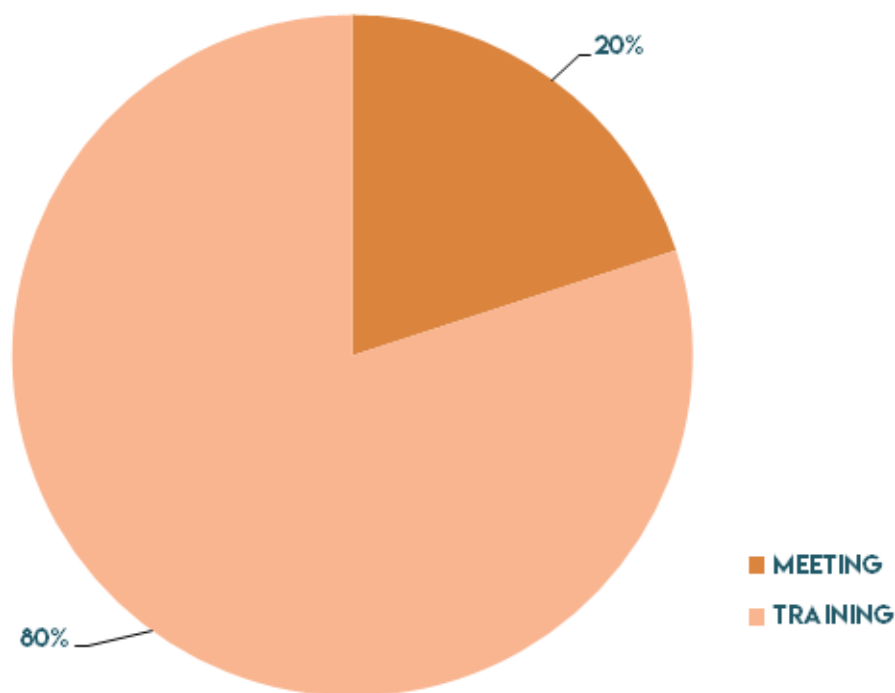


Figure 16. Percentage of component activities, China



**Figure 17. Component 1 activities, China**

Component 1 activities in China focused on achieving the following outcomes:

- ⇒ profiling of the six co-NIAs
- ⇒ reviewed accomplishments for 2016 under IFAD-supported program
- ⇒ enhanced capacity of leaders on marketing and brand building, e-commerce and policy on cooperatives
- ⇒ supply chains are formed
- ⇒ four reports containing marketing, policy, food safety and standardization of cooperative operations were submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture
- ⇒ 41 cooperatives corrected their errors in financial management and financial accounting after the training
- ⇒ 73 coops improved their farming techniques, and 18 cooperatives reached business agreements through mutual communication during the training
- ⇒ 64 coops have improved their planting techniques on disease prevention and control
- ⇒ 886 farmer leaders from 588 farmers' cooperatives trained on plantation techniques and production-sale match-making of fruit industry, leaders' capability enhancement



AFFM CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S PRE-MEETING FOR 2016 MYANMAR FARMERS' FORUM AT AFFM OFFICE ON 3 JULY 2016

## COMPONENT 2. PARTICIPATION IN POLICY PROCESS

Component 2 composed 22 percent of total activities, with Vietnam and Philippines having conducted the most. Activities included in component 2 are meetings, the highlights of which include discussion on the issue of indebtedness among rice farmers, pig raisers and fish growers and other challenges that small farmers encounter; lobbying to access government loan support for commercial agriculture; and discuss certification program for geographical indication.

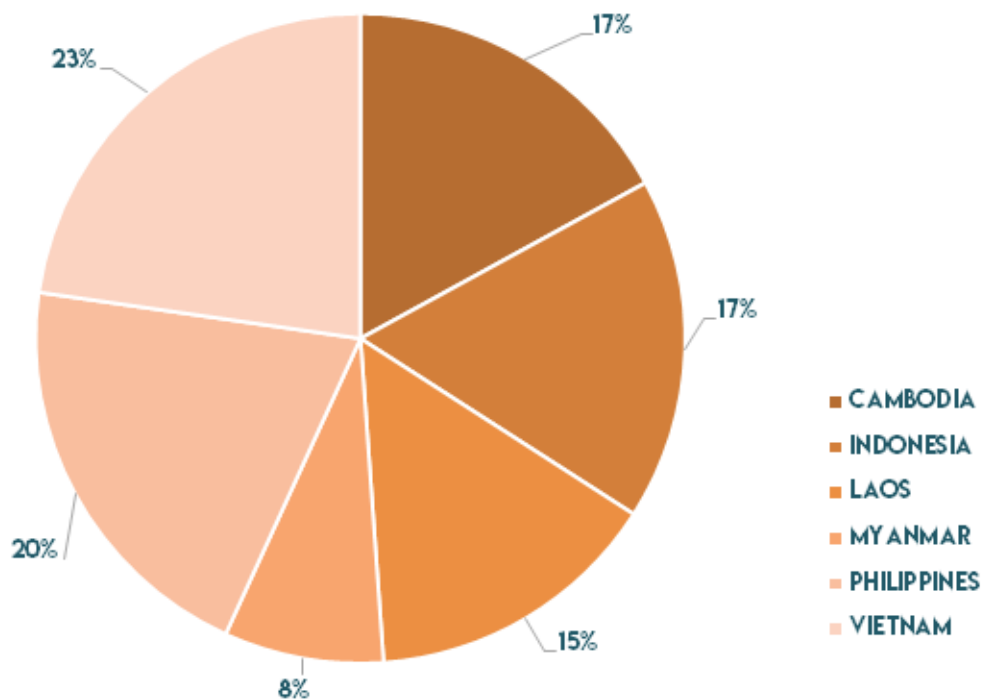
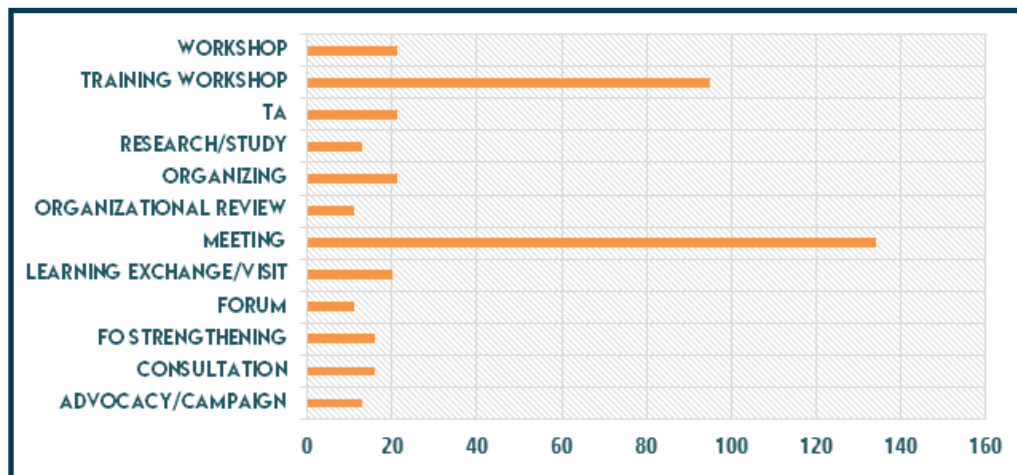


Figure 18. Component 2 activities per country in Southeast Asia

Training and workshops share a large chunk of component 2 activities as well. These include advocacy training, planning workshop with partners on different issues (seeds, cooperatives), and participation in technical working groups.



**Figure 19. Type of Component 2 activities in Southeast Asia**

Other component 2 activities are training, workshop, learning exchange and visit, advocacy and campaign, to name a few. Advocacy and campaign activities revolved around the following:

- ⇒ amend provisions of some policies to create better condition for outstanding farmers to be included in the national vocational training program (Vietnam)
- ⇒ actively take part in bottoms-up budgeting, which entails consultation from grassroots sector (Philippines)
- ⇒ dialogue to ensure farmers' rights and protection (Indonesia)

Researches and studies were also done to gather data for planning on value chain for fruit, vegetable, cattle and coffee; research on cooperatives; agricultural issues of women; and policy paper on the situation of farmers' rights.

Each country have different focus and interests, as may be gleaned from the individual charts.

## CAMBODIA

Half of the six meetings conducted in Cambodia are advisory committee meetings to plan and decide matters related to program implementation; two meetings are held for consultation purposes between farmers and partners (government, CSOs) to come up with better cooperation agenda.

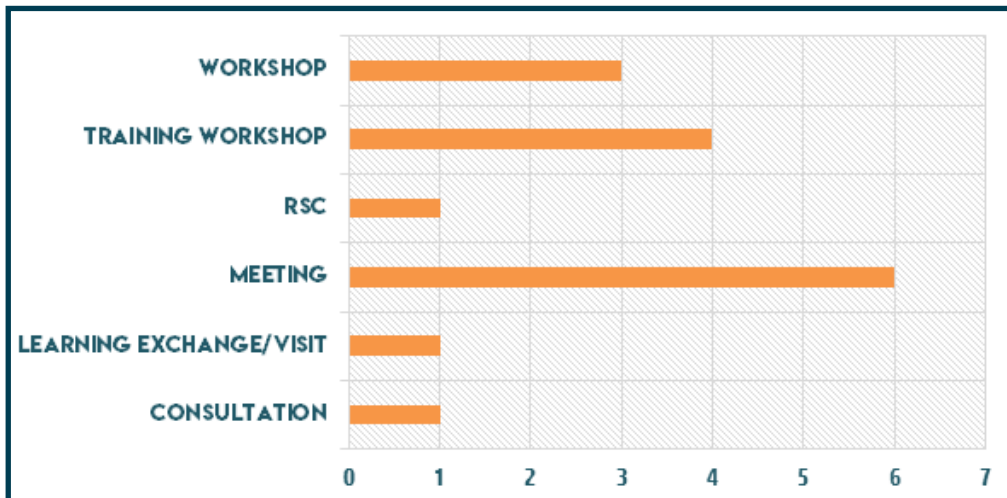


Figure 20. Component 2 activities in Cambodia

Training activities under component 2 focused on agricultural cooperative, advocacy training and protection/promotion of geographic indication in Cambodia. Some 50 farmers also took part in the CSO consultation in conjunction with 33<sup>rd</sup> FAO APRC.

Outcomes of these activities are:

- ⇒ young farmers, both male and female, are getting involved in the organization and its decision-making processes
- ⇒ 25 percent of women are getting involved in the organization and program activities
- ⇒ better cooperation is achieved among FOs at the national platform

## INDONESIA

Component 2 meetings in Indonesia can be categorized into two: program-related meetings and public meeting. The lone public meeting discussed geographic indication led by EU and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights.

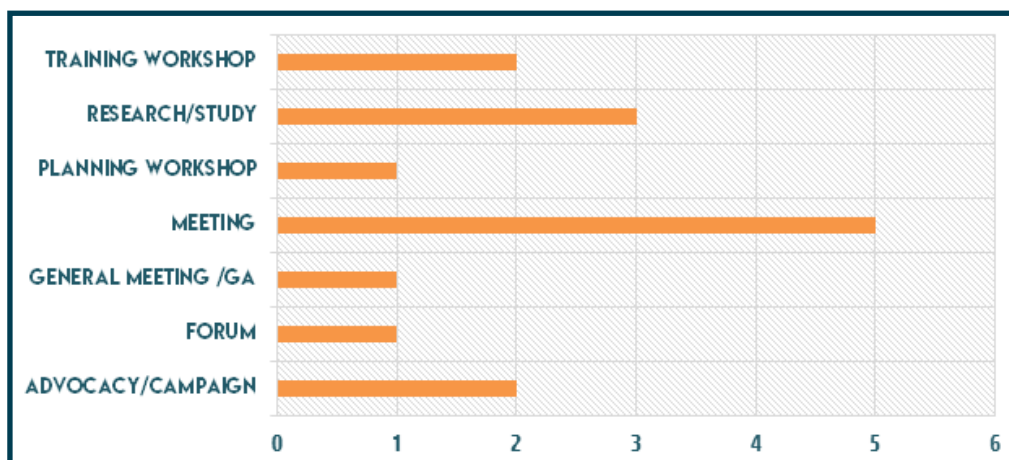


Figure 21. Component 2 activities in Indonesia

The biggest activity conducted in Indonesia is the farmers' assembly attended by 10,000 farmers, 27 percent of which are female (youth and adult) and 37 percent are youth (male and female).

Researches were also conducted under component 2 which resulted to the following:

- ⇒ inventory of local seeds to be developed locally
- ⇒ situation of farmers in Indonesia
- ⇒ mapping of production cost and distribution of red chili
- ⇒ value chain challenges of robusta coffee in Malang district
- ⇒ organic rice study in Tasik Malaya and Boyolali districts
- ⇒ increasing income of rice farmers through accessing "Multi Quality Government Purchasing Price and Improving the Quality of Rice Mill Unit"
- ⇒ Fertilizer making guide for farmers
- ⇒ Seed sovereignty guide for small scale farmers

Ten representatives from Indonesia also participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> ACBF conducted in Manila and its subsequent activity, post ACBF workshop with CSOs and FOs to plan for cooperative agenda for ASEAN civil society organizations. Other than the ACBF and Post-ACBF, Indonesia FOs actively engaged in other regional level activities as well, such as the global consultation on the implementation of farmers' rights in ITPGRFA.

Results of component 2 activities include the following:

- four representatives from three National FOs learned from the experiences on cooperative development from Thailand and the Philippines and re-echoed the capacity building for three FOs in National Platform.
- established networking and sharing of experiences between FOs and agriculture cooperatives in ASEAN countries
- 20 representatives from the national FOs actively participated in public discussion on Geographic Indication certification; gathered information about strategic implementation of GI particularly for Gayo coffee.
- formulated position paper and recommendation related to the implementation of farmer right in ITPGRFA

LAOS

There were at least 12 activities conducted under this component, the highlight of which is the farmers’ conference on cooperatives with around 40 participating FOs. Farmers shared good practices among themselves and presented policies and support that they need from the local government such as capacity building, access to funds and markets, regulating foreign investment, land tenure, certification/registration and trade facilitation.

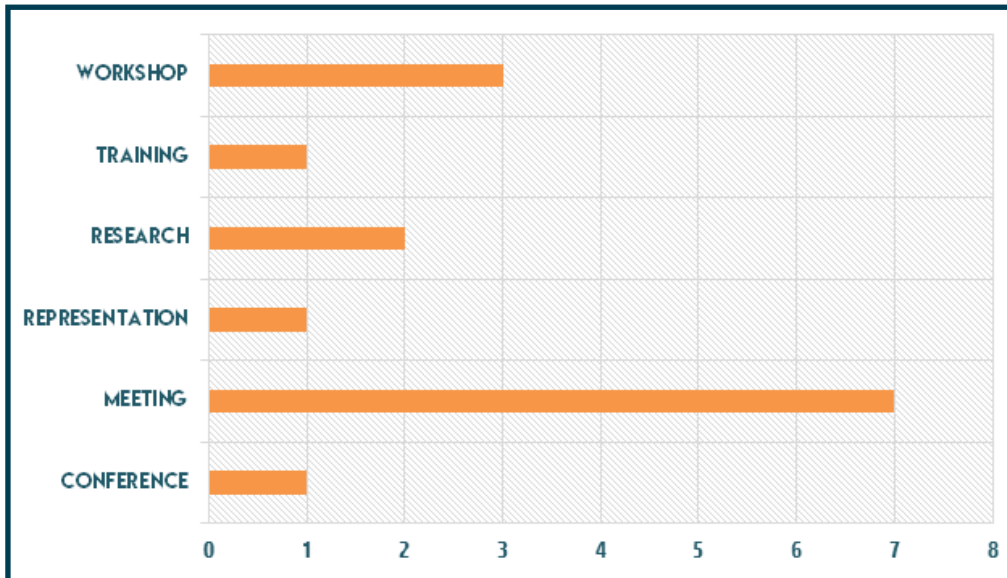


Figure 22. Component 2 activities in Laos

LFN also actively participated in technical working groups and sub-working groups especially the Sector Working Group on Agriculture and Rural Development (SWGARD) and Sub-Sector Working Group on Agri-business (SSWGAB). These provided space for LFN to engage in policy dialogue. The network also participated in Land Issue Working Group and Mekong Region Land Governance Program. LFN has also been invited to meetings with high level decision makers such as the meeting chaired by the Prime Minister on the issue of indebtedness, loan interest and foreign investment. The policy makers confirmed their support to small holder farmers.

Some LFN leaders took part also in regional policy dialogue such as the ASEAN Cooperative Business Forum in Manila and the meeting with EU Commissioner on Agriculture.

MYANMAR

AFFM conducted seven activities under component 2 – 5 meetings, 1 forum and 1 consultation. These activities focused on dialogue with government to implement policy, provide necessary services for farmers, award vacant, fallow and virgin lands to farmers, and amend land law. Included in the lobby with government are provision of social security, health and education benefits, and market facility for farmers.

Other activities under component include organizational review and management and learning from the experiences of FOs in other countries.

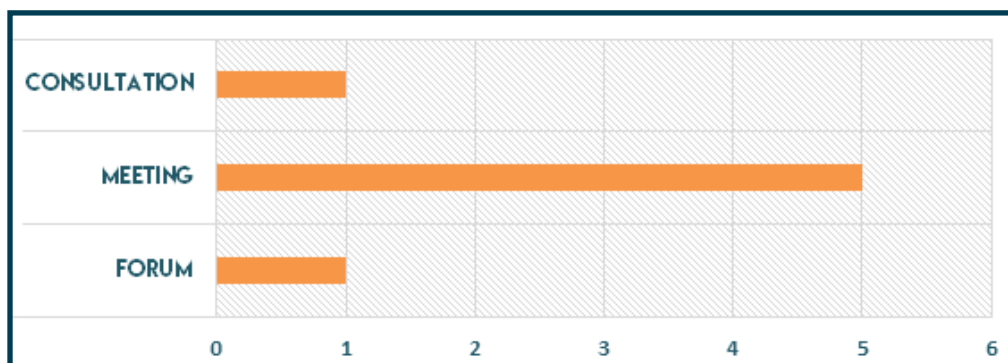


Figure 23. Component 2 activities, Myanmar

### PHILIPPINES

Most component 2 activities in the Philippines are advocacy and campaign consisting of dialogue with government agency (e.g. agrarian case with DAR), participation in policy process and bottoms up budgeting, attendance to bottoms up budgeting, and participation in regional science and technology celebration. initial planning, networking and fund-raising was also done for staging the nationwide campaign to highlight agrarian reform as agenda in the 2016 Philippine national elections.

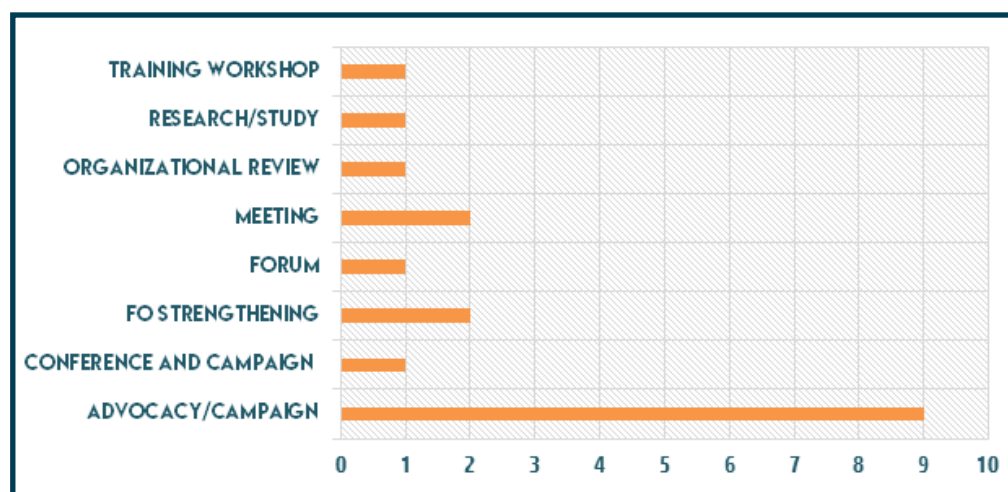


Figure 24. Component 2 activities, Philippines

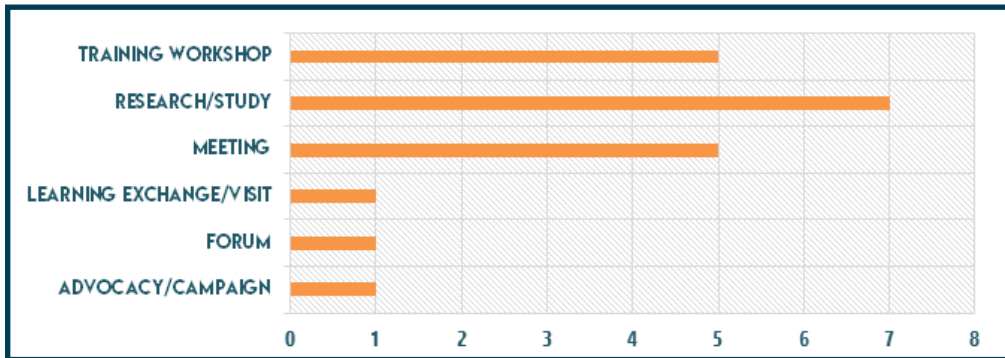
Component 2 activities resulted to the following:

- ⇒ representation of farmers in the formulation of IRR
- ⇒ discussed solutions to land conflicts and CLOA issuances with DAR Secretary
- ⇒ finalized campaign on Agrarian Reform as an election agenda.



## VIETNAM

Most component 2 activities conducted are research/study, training workshop and meeting. The research focused on value chain for orange, vegetables, cattle, banana and coffee in six provinces.



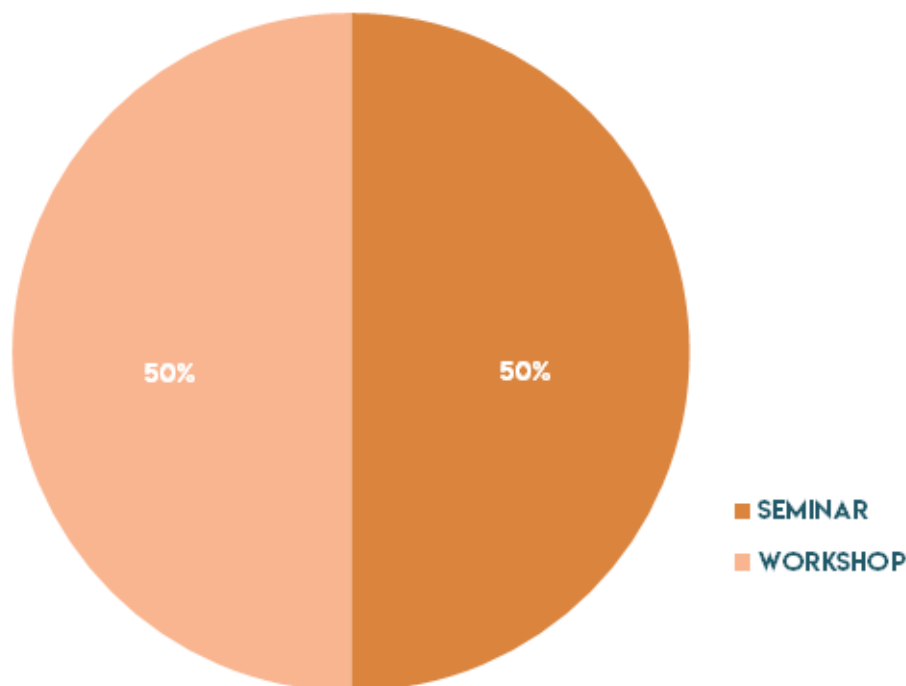
**Figure 25. Component 2 activities, Vietnam**

The five trainings conducted include Farmers' Advocacy Consultation Tool or FACT, Solution for Farmers upon Vietnam's participation in Trans Pacific Partnership agreement, Cooperative Development skills, farmer-to-farmer training models, and rice seed development for Mekong in the context of integration and climate change. Results of these training are:

- ⇒ 31 farmers trained on FACT; 8 FACT plans formulated
- ⇒ 150 participants gained awareness and information on the impact of TPP on agriculture; an instruction document was prepared to raise the awareness of VNFU staff and members about the economic integration
- ⇒ 6 cooperative groups learned knowledge on business planning and market research
- ⇒ document to lobby for amendments law creating conditions for outstanding farmers in the national vocational training program
- ⇒ raised the importance of rice seed in production and competitiveness in the context of integration and climate change

## CHINA

Two activities were conducted in China – training and workshop – on financial management, cooperative law, feedback and recommendations on the implementation of existing policies.



**Figure 26. Component 2 activities, China**

Highlight of component 2 is the policy improvements made for land, insurance, finance and human resource. These were submitted in four reports to the Ministry of Agriculture. Specific suggestions were brought forward to relevant department concerning set up of taxation items.

Five policy dialogues were conducted: one was attended by 89 representatives from 89 cooperatives to modify the China Farmers' Cooperative Law; another is to discuss internal credit cooperation of farmers' cooperative among 75 farmers from 73 cooperatives; two dialogues was attended representatives from 58 cooperatives to discuss feedback and suggestions on existing policies; and one focused on cooperative financial management which was attended by representatives from 27 cooperatives. In response to the call of the central government for poverty alleviation, the project presented the journals of China Farmers' Cooperatives to 730 farmers' cooperatives in the poverty-stricken regions.



INDONESIAN FARMER LEADERS  
BESOUGHT PRESIDENT JOKO  
WIDODO TO SUPPORT SMALL  
HOLDER FARMERS.



LAO FARMERS DISCUSSING POLICIES  
SUPPORTIVE OF COOPERATIVES



FARMER LEADERS DURING THE  
FARMERS' ADVOCACY



FARMERS FROM ASEAN COUNTRIES  
JOINED THE 6TH ACBF IN MANILA.  
AFOSP/MTCP2 FOS FROM CAMBODIA,  
INDONESIA, LAOS, MYANMAR, PHILIP-  
PINES, AND VIETNAM PARTICIPATED IN  
THE CONFERENCE.

### COMPONENT 3. FOS' SERVICES AND INVOLVEMENT IN AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Except for Myanmar, the rest of the countries have considerable component 3 activities in 2016. Key activities for this component are value chain development, business plan formulation, project proposal development, smart water and soil management technology, and commodity grouping.

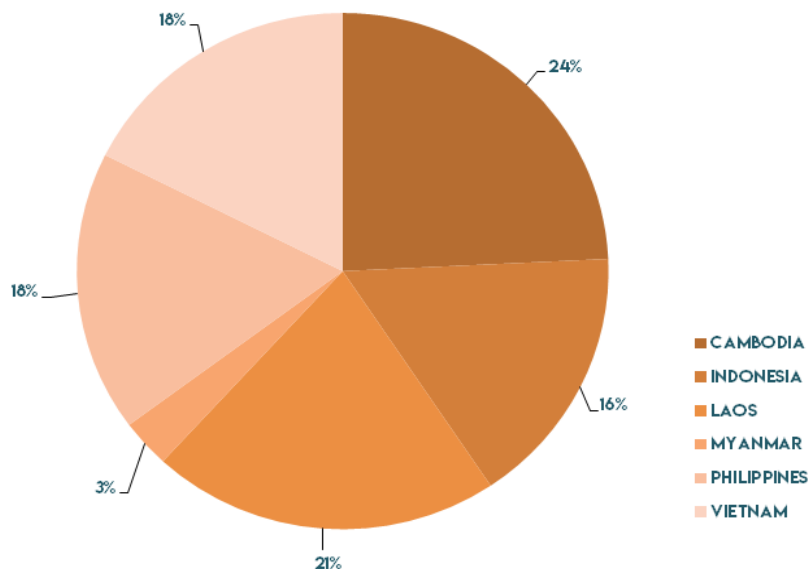


Figure 27. Share of SEA NIAs in component 3

Participation of youth and women in component 3 is also improving although male farmers still constitute majority of the participants.

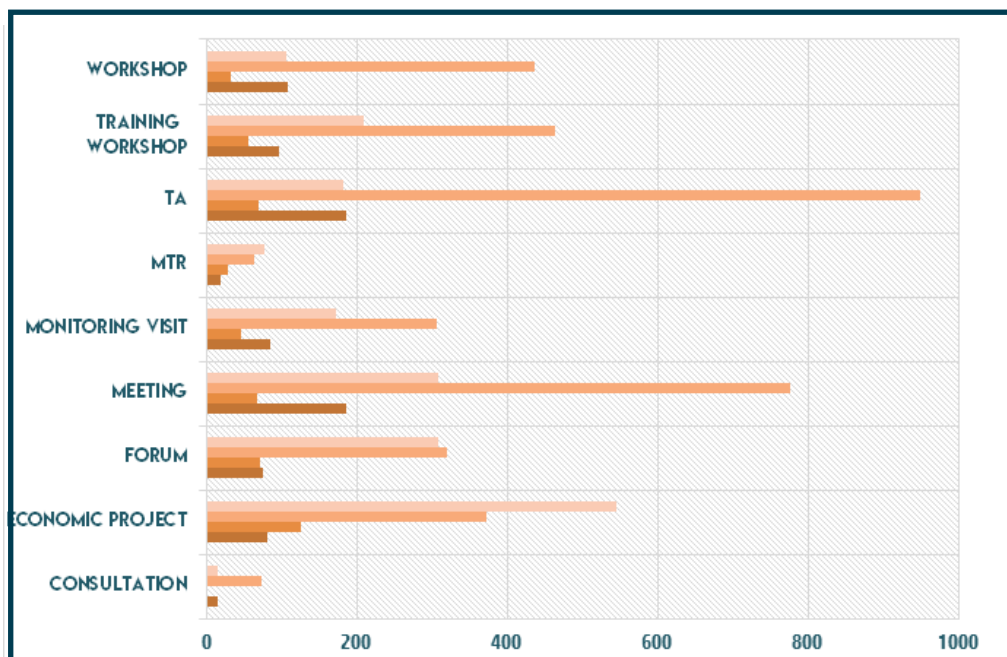


Figure 28. Youth and Female Participation in Component 3, SEA

NIAs also reported good results in terms of program management, as this is included in the third component. Series of mentoring on KM, M&E and finance resulted to more efficient reporting. All NIAs submitted reports within January, two months earlier compared to 2016 and five months earlier compared to 2015. Formats for reporting are observably more consistent with the agreed tools.

## CAMBODIA

Two major outcomes under component 3 in Cambodia are participation in the technical working group on agriculture and water and strategy development capacity for civil society staff and members. Samros Tapen, one of the local organizations in Cambodia increased membership by over 600 percent from 2014 to 2016 because farmers from nearby commune witnessed how its members benefitted from share in the rice mill, cooperative provides higher price of rice for members compared to middle men.

## INDONESIA

Major component 3 activities in Indonesia are workshop, meeting, technical assistance and training.

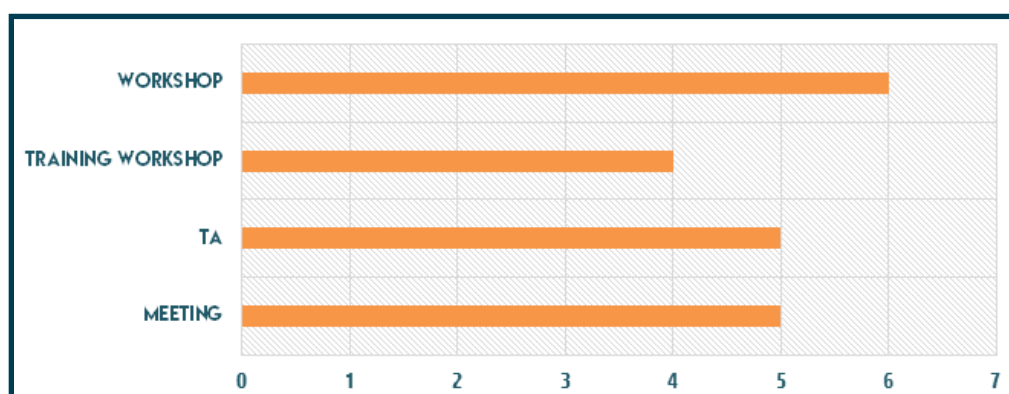


Figure 29. Types of component 3 activities, Indonesia

These activities are geared towards capacitating the members on agriculture technology to increase production of member FOs; provide capacity building on post-harvest processing and marketing; training on natural farming and ecological agriculture, agri-enterprise; market and distribution mapping (palm sugar), fish processing, developing market for value chain.

FOs in the platform also participated in IFAD country program forum, focused group discussion on quality seed by the Ministry of Economic Coordinator, and policy workshop on national strategy of agrarian reform to accelerate land reform program.

Successful results of this component includes:

- ⇒ consolidated farmer-producer in a cooperative or collective marketing and market networking in different areas.
- ⇒ increased production of quality coffee, cocoa, rice and vegetable increased in different location including East Java, Central Java, West Java, Sumatera, East Nusa Tenggara, West Sulawesi, Central Sulawesi.
- ⇒ FOs in the national platform started developing business networking among affiliate members in the priority commodities (coffee, cocoa, rice, vegetable) with 1,367 organized farmers
- ⇒ developed cooperative market networking for coffee, rice, vegetable

## LAOS

Component 3 highlight for 2016 is LFN's support to three FO members – pig producers, rice seed producers and coffee producers' groups. These groups underwent series of meetings and workshops so they can develop business plan, organizational system and a revolving fund.

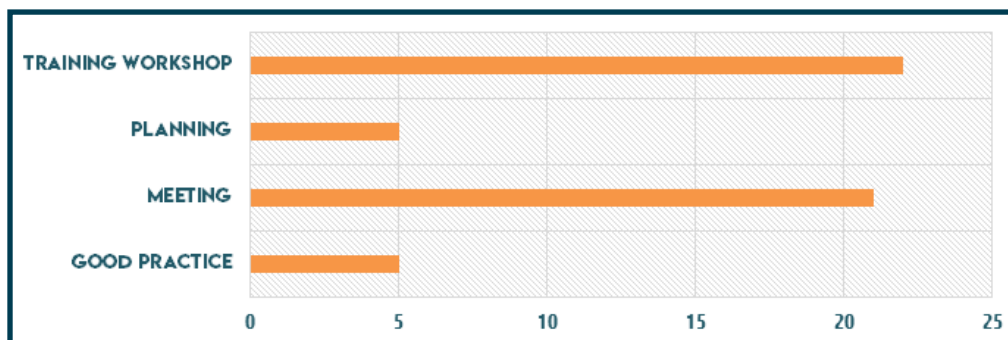


Figure 30. Types of component 3 activities, Laos

Highlight of component 3 activities are as follows:

- ⇒ support to three commodity groups – pig, rice seed and coffee producers which has now developed their business plans, set up organizational systems and provided with revolving fund to start up the economic service.
- ⇒ successful engagement with IFAD-funded programmes such as SSSJ, FNLM and GAFSP/MMI; LFN is included as implementing partner of SSFSNP
- ⇒ partnership agreement with SDC-funded program, LURAS, with USD 95,000 budget in 2016.
- ⇒ collaboration with other partners like Grret, ALisea, Agro-ecology project, MMekong Regional Land Governance Project and FAO. Project submitte to FAO was not approved but good connection with them has already been established.

## MYANMAR

Major activities conducted in Myanmar are meeting, training and one learning exchange in Cambodia. One meeting was with Myanmar Fisherfy Federation where an agreement to buy 5 acres of farm land in Than Lyin township was reached. The farm will be used to train farmer members who would use organic farming.

Young farmers were also sent to Cambodia for a learning exchange. AFFM farmer members learned from FNN in Cambodia organic fertilizer production, savings and credit cooperative, and rice mill cooperative. AFFM members were encouraged to apply the lessons they learned from the visit.

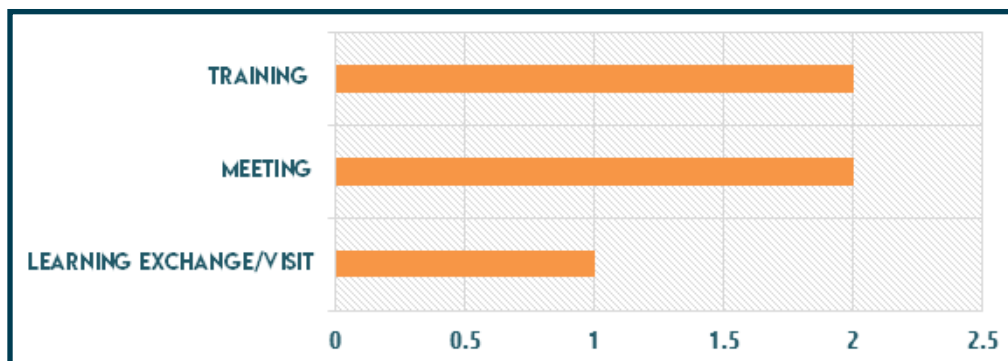


Figure 31. Types of component 3 activities, Myanmar

Other activities focused on reviewing the achievements and for other organizational management purpose.

### PHILIPPINES

Major component 3 activities in the Philippines are training-workshop, meeting, forum and engaging into economic project. Training-workshops can be clustered into three: (1) AFOSP programme management related such as the sessions on KM, M&E, finance and program management; (2) cooperative and related orientation seminar; and (3) skills training in the areas of modified coconut production technology, copra processing training.

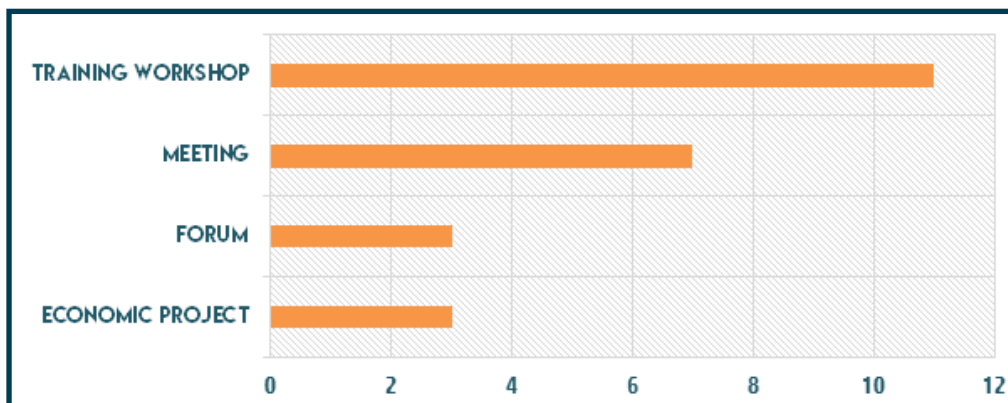


Figure 32. Type of component 3 activities, Philippines

Meetings conducted have to do with programme management, consultation for project proposal preparation, organizational meetings, and meeting with partners (Agricord, Asiadhrra). Three forums dealt with agricultural standards formulation, abaca stakeholders, and quantitative restriction on rice. Economic project related activities are actually clustering of agricultural products which eventually grouped the members in six clusters, and one project proposal preparation.

### VIETNAM

MTR is done in six areas/levels in Vietnam which explains why it topped the number of component 3 activities for 2017. Nil the MTR, contract/MOA signing and training-workshop comes to view. VNFU signed partnership agreements with IFAD, 6<sup>th</sup> Grain, and ICRAF on various on e-agriculture and improving research capacity of VNFU.

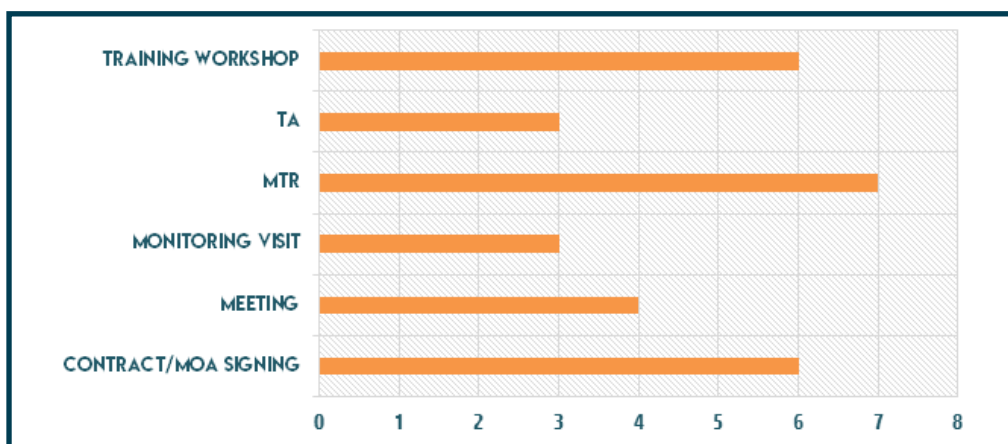


Figure 33. Type of component 3 activities, Vietnam

Outcomes of component 3 in Vietnam are:

- ⇒ business planning and market research in 9 MTCP2/AFOSP provinces and in 6 selected co-operative groups in 3 MTCP2/AFOSP provinces (15 cooperative business plans, 6 market research plans)
- ⇒ value chain analysis by 26 participants; experiences in value chain development shared between FU and IFAD coordination board
- ⇒ shared the study of value chain in 6 provinces
- ⇒ 27 project proposals developed
- ⇒ organized smart water and soil management workshops and pilot models will soon be established before replication

## CHINA

Three types of activities were conducted in China under component 3: technical exchange, forum and training.

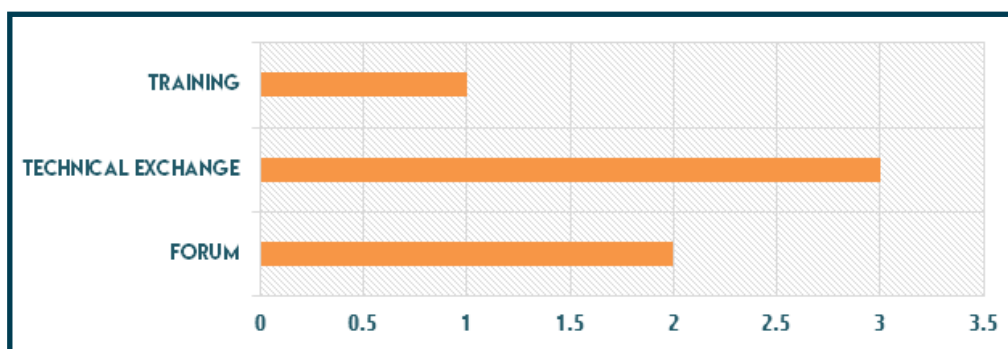


Figure 34. Component 3 activities, China

Major activity conducted was the 5<sup>th</sup> China Farmers' Cooperatives Innovative Development Forum attended by 423 leaders of different cooperatives. Among the subject matters discussed was how to reinforce and strengthen the cooperatives. AMI sought the help of cooperatives in six regions (Mentougou District of Beijing, Huailai County of Hebei, Duolun County of Inner Mongolia, Yichuan County of Shaanxi, Tieling City of Liaoning and Yancheng County of Jiangsu) to provide guidance to different cooperatives to address difficulties in further development, to promote communication exchange among cooperatives, to engage agricultural enterprises, to negotiate towards extending value chain.

AMI continues to manage the website of China Farmers' Cooperative, the journal and official WeChat platform where products are promoted.







## LESSONS LEARNED

### LESSONS FROM NIA

- ✓ Better cooperation can be fostered among FOs through organizing provincial network.
- ✓ RSC is a good venue for sharing best practices and KM collaterals. Through the KM fair, each NIA and FO get ideas from what other NIAs and FOs are doing. The same is true for sub-regional activities such as ALRAC. ALRAC, for one, inspired LFN to carry out a national research on cooperatives which was shared during a national farmers conference on cooperatives. This provides space for information sharing and networking among farmers and their organizations.
- ✓ Information and communication technology can be exploited to benefit the farmers. Such is the case of using smart phones to take short videos and photos and uploading them to social media accounts. Social media becomes venue not only for personal interaction but also for marketing and promotion of agricultural products.
- ✓ There is much to plan for and implement in terms of enabling small holder farmers to become globally competitive.
- ✓ Limited project funds restricted the number of activities and consequently its scope of influence. Bigger budget can expand the number of reached members, especially in the case of China with such huge population.

### LESSONS FROM SRIA/RIA

- ✓ Simultaneous workshops to enhance the capacity of the people in the right position enhances programme management system – e.g. use of correct reporting format, more NIAs submitted report on time, improvement in financial report, and observable improvement in facebook posts.
- ✓ SRIA responsibilities can be better managed if key programme staff are housed under one headquarters – this makes coordination and troubleshooting quicker. The MTR observed this limitation and thus, recommended to upload SRIA functions for South Asia and Southeast Asia to RIA.



KM, M&E, FINANCE, PROGRAM COORDINATOR FROM EACH OF THE SEVEN NIAs IN SOUTHEAST ASIA PLUS CHINA, AND THAT OF RIA GATHERED IN A SUB-REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING IN YANGON, MYANMAR LAST SEPTEMBER 2016



## CHINA ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016

International Fund for Agriculture Development “Medium Term Cooperation Programme with Farmers Organization in Asia–Pacific region” Phase II was started in November 2013. Under the specific implementation and management of Asian Farmers’ Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), for Chinese Project, the scheduled task has successfully completed in 2015 and is continued to be implemented in 2016. Specific tasks are implemented by Agricultural Management Institute of Ministry of Agriculture, and co-managed by Gansu Provincial Federation, Beijing municipal Federation, Hubei Provincial Federation, Zhejiang Provincial Federation, Shaanxi Provincial Federation as well as Miyun County Cooperatives Service Center, and supervised by General Office for Management and Administration on Rural Cooperative Economy of Ministry of Agriculture. The implementation of the Chinese project in 2016 is hereby reported.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. For this year, there were 2 national events which has affected the implementation of the program.
  - Since the key subjects and fields supported by the Chinese government started to turn to the family farms, the strength is reduced in formulating the support policy cooperatives and the concerns of governments at different levels are lowered for the development of cooperatives, a negative impact is formed on the overall implementation of the project. Through last few years of accumulating resources and influence, Agricultural Management Institute (AMI), the implementation organizations of the Chinese project, is positive in contacting and collaborating with the government and active in striving to grant more support to farmers’ cooperatives. As a result, famers of cooperatives received more services on training, marketing matching and development consultant from AMI and six co-managed cooperatives.
  - The Chinese government has taken the poverty alleviation as the key task in the coming period, including farmers’ cooperatives as the important entities of industrial poverty alleviation for concern and arrangement. This is an important opportunity for cooperatives to participate actively in the affairs of rural development and to play a role in poverty alleviation. By seizing the opportunity, AMI undertakes the subject research on the functions of cooperatives in poverty alleviation and offers advices and suggestions to the relevant governmental authorities, gains more concerns and supports for the cooperatives. For instance, Gansu Provincial Government set up an Industrial Development Fund, and released money directly to Gansu Provincial Federation, aimed at supporting it to provide more services to the local poor population. 2. In terms of component 1, 7 different training programs were held, which has trained 886 farmers’ organization leaders from 588 farmers’ cooperatives, and the cooperative representatives from 6 joint execution units account for more than 70%. The 7 training programs focus on different subjects, including: plantation techniques and production-sale matchmaking of fruit industry (2 programs), leaders’ capability enhancement (1 program), culture techniques and disease prevention and control of livestock industry (1 program), regulation for financial management of farmers’ cooperatives (1 program), plantation techniques of vegetables and production-sale matchmaking (1 program) and grain plantation techniques and market (1 program).
2. In terms of component 2, five policy dialogue activities on thematic policies are held, and the themes are: one focuses on the modification of the China Farmers’ Cooperatives Law, and was attended by 89 representatives from 89 cooperatives; one focuses on internal credit cooperation of farmers’ cooperatives, and was attended by 75 persons from 73 cooperatives; two focus on the execution feedback and suggestions of existing policies, and were attended by 58 representatives from 58 cooperatives; one focuses on the financial management of cooperatives, and was attended by 27 representatives from 27 cooperatives. In addition, in active response to the call of the central government for poverty alleviation, the project presents the journals of China Farmers’ Cooperatives to 730 farmers’ cooperatives in the poverty-stricken regions for the whole year.

3. In terms of component 3, with the support of the project, the 5<sup>th</sup> China Farmers' Cooperatives Innovative development Forum is held and attended by 423 leaders of cooperatives; with the subject of "accumulating forces for reinforcing cooperatives", 6 activities are held for guidance and consultant on the development of cooperatives. AMI approached the cooperatives for guidance services in six regions as Mentougou District of Beijing, Huailai County of Hebei, Duolun County of Inner Mongolia, Yichuan Country of Shaanxi, Tieling City of Liaoning and Yancheng County of Jiangsu, providing guidance to different cooperatives for the problems encountered in their development, promoting the communication and exchange between the cooperatives and the local governmental departments, engaging the enterprises of agricultural means and enterprises of agricultural product sales for face-to-face negotiation with cooperatives on cooperation and extending the value chain of cooperatives. Additionally, AMI continues to operate and manage the website of China Farmers' Cooperatives, Readers of the journal China Farmers' Cooperatives Website and the official WeChat platform of China Farmers' Cooperatives, with which to propagate the cooperatives and their products, deliver the dynamic information of government-supported projects, and promote the experiences and practices of the cooperatives in proper development so that more cooperatives can benefit. In terms of attending the international conferences, 4 regional conferences and events of the project are attended and the project officials are engaged to China for guidance once.
4. In terms of program management, under the guidance of National Steering Committee, the execution unit and the joint execution units continued to execute the schedule strictly according to the annual implementation plan.
5. Key program challenges encountered during the year includes: the number of Chinese farmers' cooperatives is huge, but their scale is generally small, it is rare to form the joint organization on the basis of individual cooperatives, and the problem with the registration and management of joint cooperatives or joint associations is not yet resolved at the level of law.
6. Key learnings for the year are: more attention should be given to promote the market competitiveness of farmers' cooperatives, especially under the background of globalized trade, farmers' cooperatives need to continue with extending their value chain before finally achieving the target of increasing the earnings of farmers and promoting the livelihoods of small farmers.
7. Key concerns needing discussions and actions: the major problem encountered in the project implementation is the limited scale of project funds, which restricted the number of activities to be undertaken and scope of influence. The achievement of the development of Chinese farmers' cooperatives is extremely prominent, and the development potential is huge, but the problems observed are also serious. If it is possible to increase the quota of financial support appropriately, it will be helpful to implement the project in a larger scope and help more cooperatives to learn the excellent experiences of other countries through the project platform and seek the way and method of resolving their own problems. It will help to promote the development of Chinese farmers' cooperatives in a better direction.



## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

### TRAINING

In this year, 7 training programs have been held for farmers:

Training for leaders of national demonstration farmers' cooperatives was held in Kunming, Yunnan in March (fruit).



In this training class, the activity of “United efforts & Strengthening cooperative” was officially launched. Training for leaders of provincial demonstration farmers' cooperatives was held in Shenzhen, Guangdong in April (fruit).



The trainees were visiting the Agricultural Science and Technology Park of Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province.

Training on capability building of farmers' cooperatives leaders was held in Beijing in May.



The trainees were visiting the Storage Area of the Cooperative of Tianli Africultural Mechine in Beijing.

Training for leaders of national demonstration farmers' cooperatives was held in Suzhou, Anhui in June (rear livestock).



The trainees were visiting the Xiangyang Cooperative of Siyang County.



Training for regular financial management of farmers' cooperatives was held in Urumqi, Xinjiang in August



The trainees were visiting the Youth Planting Cooperative of Xinjiang.

Training for leaders of provincial demonstration farmers' cooperatives was held in Yinchuan, Ningxia, in September (vegetables)



The trainees were visiting the Ten thousand Fragrant-flowered Garlic Area of Ningwu County of Ningxia.

Training for leaders of national demonstration farmers' cooperatives was held in Haikou, Hainan in October (crop)



The trainees were learning the members' accounts of Qiongzong Fudao Rubber Cooperatives in Hainan Province.

Of these training programs, trainings on fruit, rear livestock and vegetables focused on technique, disease prevention and control, product brand building and marketing; training on financial management of farmers' cooperatives focused on such learning contents as requirements and practical operation points of financial management for cooperatives; Training on capability building of farmers' cooperatives leaders focused on promoting the capability of cooperatives leaders for team construction and emphasizing the development concept and organizational capability building. According to the post-training follow-up survey, by participating in the programs, 216 cooperatives have improved their plantation techniques, 41 cooperatives corrected their errors in financial management and financial accounting and 53 cooperatives reached the production-sale cooperation agreements through mutual communication during the training.

## POLICY DIALOGUE

In March, the seminar on “Modification of China Farmers’ Cooperatives Law” was held, at which the governmental officials were invited to make a dialogue with the leaders of the cooperatives on the specific requirements and benefit demand of law revision. During the meeting, more than 100 recommendations in five aspects were collected and sorted out for submission to the competent authority of law revision.



The seminar on “Modification of China Farmers’ Cooperatives Law” was held.

In April, the seminar on “Internal Credit Cooperation of Farmers’ Cooperatives” was held to discuss on such issues as the function, principle and risk control of carrying out internal credit for farmers’ cooperatives. Finally, an agreement was achieved to recommend the government to publish the administrative rules for credit cooperation for the purpose of regulating and promoting the development of internal credit cooperation for the cooperatives.



The seminar on “Internal Credit Cooperation of Farmers’ Cooperatives” was held.

In May and July, the seminar was held respectively, concerning the feedback and recommendations for the implementation of existing policies. Upon discussion, specific recommendations for policy



improvement were made for land, insurance, finance and human resource, which were written into 4 reports. The reports were submitted to and get positive feedback from the competent department of cooperatives under Ministry of Agriculture.



The seminar was held respectively, concerning the feedback and recommendations for the implementation of existing policies.

In August, the seminar on "Financial Management of Cooperatives" was held, at which the experts of financial management from Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, Qingdao Agricultural university, development company of financial software for farmers' cooperatives and other institutions were engaged to discuss jointly with the 110 representatives present on the regular financial management of farmers' cooperatives and specific suggestions for improving the financial management of cooperatives were brought forward and especially, specific suggestions were put forward to the relevant department concerning the setup of taxation items.



The seminar on “Financial Management of Cooperatives” was held.

## FORUM

National Cooperatives Forum on “Innovation and Development of Farmers’ Cooperatives” was held in December, which was attended by 423 cooperatives leaders. At the forum, governmental officials, scholars and experts of research institution, agricultural means of production suppliers, purchasers of agricultural products and other representatives were invited to discuss with cooperatives leaders on how Chinese farmers’ cooperatives will actualize innovative development in the background of international market impact and supply-side reform of China.

National Cooperatives Forum on “Innovation and Development of Farmers’ Cooperatives” was held in December.

## ADVOCACY

The “Excellent Cooperatives, Excellent Leaders, Excellent Cooperatives Brands and Most Favourable Agricultural Means of Product Brands of China in 2016” activity was held, which had more than 1,000 cooperatives taking part in the comparison and at which 50 excellent cooperatives, 50 excellent leaders and 50 excellent cooperatives brands respectively and 10 most favourable agricultural means of product brands for cooperative were eventually selected, attracting more people to care for and concern about farmers’ cooperatives and their products and creating a benign environment for the development of cooperatives.

The “Excellent Cooperatives, Excellent Leaders, Excellent Cooperatives Brands and Most Favourable Agricultural Means of Product Brands of China in 2016” activity was held, which had more than 1,000 cooperatives taking part in the comparison and at which 50 excellent cooperatives, 50 excellent leaders and 50 excellent cooperatives brands respectively and 10 most favourable agricultural means of product brands for cooperative were eventually selected



## 第三届“农合之星” 推介活动获奖名单

由农业部管理干部学院主办的第三届“农合之星”暨优秀合作社、优秀合作人物、优秀合作社品牌、合作社喜爱的农资品牌推介活动自开展以来，受到广大合作社理事长、辅导员及关心合作社事业的各界人士的大力支持和积极参与。根据1家合作社只能获得1个奖项的原则，经过初审、网上投票（网站+微信）和专家评审，最终确定安徽天长市惠民村新型农业专业合作社等50家合作社获得“优秀合作社”荣誉称号；廖之瑞等50人获得“优秀合作人物”荣誉称号；“年天蔬”等30个合作社品牌获得“优秀合作社品牌”荣誉称号；巴斯夫（中国）有限公司等10家企业获得“合作社喜爱的农资品牌”荣誉称号。具体名单公布如下（排名不分先后）。

### “优秀合作社”获奖名单

安徽省天长市惠民村新型农业专业合作社	河北省武强县新合油葵种植专业合作社	山东省昌乐中牧海神禽养殖专业合作社
安徽省祁门县三联果蔬专业合作社	河南省鹿邑县博印高粱种植专业合作社	山东省济阳县阳光水稻种植专业合作社
安徽省黟县绿茶专业合作社	黑龙江省农家人购销合作社联社	山东省聊城市东阿县马店种植专业合作社
安徽省泾县绿野早元竹笋专业合作社	黑龙江省铁力县三地生态农业种植专业合作社	山东省寿光市民隆蔬菜专业合作社
安徽省巢湖市淮上动物养殖专业合作社	湖北省七仙红林果农民专业合作社联社	山东省潍州市为民地瓜种植专业合作社
北京市通州区漷县乡村康专业合作社联社	湖北省武汉市金色惠农生态农业专业合作社	山西省朔州市朔城区晟源蔬菜专业合作社
北京市张家湾养殖专业合作社	湖南省郴州市兴花内苗木专业合作社	山西省夏县惠农果蔬专业合作社
重庆市建太农业股份有限公司	湖南省江永县桃川刺梨等特色产业合作社	四川省高县常礼葡萄种植专业合作社
福建省霞浦县海盛农民专业合作社	江苏省高邮市阳光特种水产专业合作社	四川省什邡市周发农产品专业合作社
甘肃省靖远县众信种植专业合作社	江苏省丰县桑丰果蔬专业合作社	天津市兴农马蔬菜专业合作社
甘肃省庄浪县静心鸡蛋品牌农民专业合作社	江苏省睢宁县百尊果蔬专业合作社	新疆博乐市塔斯尔海光尼星种植专业合作社
广东省广州市番禺区金田种植专业合作社	江西省云农农民专业合作社联社	新疆和静县金牧源生态养殖专业合作社
广东省肇庆市新会区农业专业合作社	辽宁省铁岭县碧丰玉米新品种推广专业合作社	新疆新源县牧场兴农专业合作社
广东省肇庆市端州区物产种植专业合作社	内蒙古莫力达瓦达利农自给自足蔬菜种植专业合作社	浙江省杭州千岛湖富农食用菌专业合作社
贵州省安顺市西秀区黔中绿源种植专业合作社	内蒙古兴安盟扎赉特旗丰韵马鸡养殖专业合作社	浙江省嘉兴市南湖区净源农民专业合作社
海南省三亚福源热带水果农民专业合作社	山东省昌乐博升养殖专业合作社	浙江省天台县中药材专业合作社
河北省藁城县天农果蔬农民专业合作社	山东省昌乐兴科农产品产销专业合作社	

### “优秀合作人物”获奖名单

廖之瑞 安徽省固镇县金香丝粉条专业合作社	洪 旺 广东省新兴县天绿农产品专业合作社
常建贵 山西省沁县采菊小米开发专业合作社	胡 华 重庆市巫山县石龙马铃薯种植专业合作社
陈紫印 辽宁省新民市福隆蔬菜种植专业合作社	黄 涛 河南省郟城县大力鼓种植专业合作社
陈文托 河南省扶沟县文拓瓜菜专业合作社	丹立文 山东省东平县农村经营管理办公室
高维德 甘肃省榆中茂源土豆产销专业合作社	康殿文 新疆吉木萨尔县金家营村新青年农牧业专业合作社
高志兴 甘肃省靖远弘兴养殖专业合作社	李春荣 云南省勐腊县瑶区冬瓜糖种植专业合作社
黄联江 浙江省义乌市农业林业局农村经营管理站	李德虎 湖北省点军区车溪人家农产品专业合作社

The journal of Chinese Farmers' Cooperatives distribution covered 15,000 persons; the daily average visits to the website of farmers' cooperatives and the website of the journal readers exceeded 10,000 person-times; the concerns of fans for the WeChat public account reached 36,000; more than 50 various social media communication groups were established and managed, as the timely and convenient communication platforms for the cooperatives leaders.





The journal of Chinese Farmers' Cooperatives distribution covered 15,000 persons.

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Duan Lili , Jintang Fruit and Vegetable Cooperative; Zhou Zhongli(Crystal Zhou), Agricultural Management Institute; Ma Yuanbiao, Gansu Provincial Federation; Liu Yuanyuan(Jennifer Liu), Sun chaochao (Suzie Sun), Agricultural Management Institute; Zhang Haijiao, General Office for Management and Administration on Rural Cooperative Economy of Ministry of Agriculture.

In February, the representative of Chinese farmers' cooperatives Duan Lili attended The Sixth Global Meeting of Farmers' Forum held in Rome, communicating with farmers' representatives from other countries about the experiences in the development of farmers' cooperatives, which was enlightening for resolving the problems with the development of cooperatives in their home countries.

In February, IFAD project coordinator Ms. Lany came to China for the project guidance, specific guidance and revise were made on the plan and implementation program of the Chinese project of 2016 and enhancing effectively the implementation efficiency and effect of the project;

In June, Zhou Zhongli, the representative of the project execution units, and Ma Yuanbiao from Gansu Province of the Co-NIA went to Vientiane, Laos, to attend the second session of the Executive Committee meeting of MCTP2, reporting the mid-term execution condition of the project, listening to the opinions of the project party for improvement, and exchanging with other member countries the experiences in the project execution, as has significantly promoted the better completion of tasks for the rest part of the year.

In September, Liu Yuanyuan, Sun Chaochao and Zhang Haijiao, the representatives of the project execution unit, went Yangon, Myanmar for MCTP2SEA+China Sub-Regional Steering Committee (SRSC) Meeting, reported the execution condition of the project in the first three quarters and took part in the training for coordinator, financial manager, M&E and KM personnel. The event has enhanced the working capacity of the project execution personnel and promoted the successful implementation and undertaking of the project.

In November, Liu Yuanyuan, the representative of the project execution units, and Ma Yuanbiao, from Gansu Province of the Co-NIA went to Manila, Philippine for the 6<sup>th</sup>ACBF, exchanging with the representatives present the experiences and problems of farmers' cooperatives in extending the agriculture value chain and participating in the market competition and exhibiting the excellent products of Chinese farmers' cooperatives. It has promoted the agricultural exchange between China and Southeast Asian countries and the communication of cooperatives development.

## ANALYSIS

### ON RESULTS OF ACTIVITIES

- Component 1 (Training and Specific Seminar) shows the most significant efficiency. Through training and seminar, farmers' cooperatives can learn new knowledge, understand the new industry trends, master the latest policies, make acquaintance of counterparts for collaboration, widen the marketing channel and exchange policy recommendations. More importantly, leaders of farmers' cooperatives can practice the new ideas and knowledge learned directly as they get back to their cooperative. Upon returning after training, 80% of the trainees have adjusted the managerial model of the cooperatives to some extent, as is the real purpose of the training.
- The cost for Component 1 "Training and Specific Seminar" is the highest. The training time is generally four to seven days and the number of participants is 100~130 persons each time. Since the training scale is relatively big, the expenses and cost are relatively high.
- The Component 3 is the most difficult one for implementation. For this executive body, due to the systematic restriction, it is very hard to engage the foreign organizations for conference in China; as for China, the requirement of the administrative authority is rather strict for conference. In order to resolve this problem, we have integrated more activities under Component 3 into the training project and made the training activities multifunctional, including such segments as training, policy dialogue and activities, for the purpose of meeting the overall requirement of the project. However, such arrangement has further increased the cost of Component 1.

### ON GENDER CONCERN

According to the statistical data, of the activity participants, 28% are female and 72% are male. In China, presidents of farmers' cooperatives are mostly male and are rarely female, but the growth of female presidents shows an benign trend. Under the support of some female start-up programs and policies, more and more women become the leaders of cooperatives. But the total number is dramatically smaller than that of males.



More and more women leaders and youth leaders join the activities supported by MTCP2.



## ON PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- The project in this year attached more importance to the participation of the Co-NIA and gave full play to the Federation of Farmers' Cooperatives in such five provinces as Beijing, Shaanxi, Gansu, Hubei and Zhejiang and Beijing Miyun District Farmers' Cooperatives Guidance Service Centre in driving more cooperatives to take part in the project events. The project execution components are undertaken by the Co-NIA and the target objects of the events undertaken with the support of the project are leaned towards and centralized into the local regions of the Co-NI, for the purpose of enhancing the accuracy of the project implementation and increasing the traceability of the project implementation effect evaluation.

## ON CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

Limited funds and inadequate manpower are the two major problems encountered in this year.

- With the support of MTCP2 funds, AMI tried all the best to strive for the matching funds for undertaking the relevant project activities and raising the domestic funds input with the project funds, but the project funds were still overspent by the end of the year.
- Since more project activities are undertaken in 2016 significantly than 2015, the problem of inadequate staff is prominent and some of the activities have to be undertaken by engaging the part-time staff. In order to further promote the smooth implementation of the project, it is intended to engage one full-time management staff in the next project year, but it will further increase the cost.

## ON FACILITATING FACTORS

- In this year, the exchange activities that China has participated with other project countries is more than last year, which is a significant promoting effect for optimizing the local project execution effect and improving the project execution plan.
- The project coordinator came to China to guide the project work, helping effectively the project country to undertake the project activities more smoothly.
- By obtaining the matching funds in this year, AMI helped the project to complete the annual task in a better way, and achieved the project goal.
- By engaging one additional project coordinator, the efficiency is obviously increased in project management, summary and report works.

## SOME LESSONS LEARNED

- The project activities are planned and arranged with more focus on the specific farmers' cooperatives for the sake of tracing observation, monitoring and evaluating the project execution effect.
- The communication with the project coordinator and other project countries is enhanced to improve and perfect the efficiency and effect of the project execution.
- More attention is given to the market capacity building of farmers' cooperatives and project activities are emphatically designed and undertaken, as will be helpful for farmers' cooperatives to enhance the competitive capacity and advance the sustainable development of farmers' cooperatives.

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS NEEDED

### NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

It is recommended that National Steering Committee attaches more attention and supports AMI to participate in the international exchange program of the project and helps and coordinates for the execution units in taking part in and organizing the relevant project activities so that China can play a more active role in the project.

### NIA

More concerns are to be given to the developments of International farmers' cooperative organizations and attention is to be given to absorb the excellent development experiences of other countries. It is recommended to consider adequately the conditions and features of Chinese execution units, explore the way and method for AMI to take part in and organize more project exchange activities and support China to play a bigger role in the project.

### SRIA

It is recommended to increase and support the exchange visits and communication between project countries in the sub-zones for the purpose of learning experiences from each other and improving jointly the level of the project execution.

### RIA

It is recommended to guide China in applying to the head office of International Fund for Agriculture Development and other agencies for participating in other more projects, and expand further influence of the project worldwide.



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Investing in rural people

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