# Extension Capacity Development for Rice Food Security in Africa:

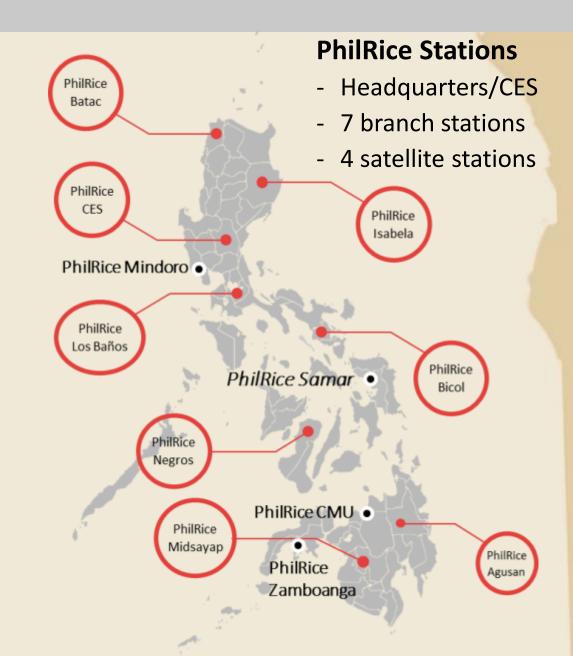
A Case of South-South Cooperation

(PhilRice-JICA-IRRI)

## Background

Philippine Rice
Research Institute or
PhilRice is a
government
corporation under the
Department of
Agriculture.

PhilRice is the lead agency for Rice Research for Development (R4D) in the Philippines.









## Background

PhilRice and JICA have a long history of partnership through general grant-aid, technical cooperation projects (TCP 1 to 5), and in-country training programs (1990 to present)

- Under the South-South Cooperation Project, PhilRice has been involved in two major activities of CARD:
  - 1 Seminars via video conference
  - 2 Training of extension agronomists (Phases 1&2)





## Seminars through Video Conference in 2012

Topic	Date	Resource Person
Seminar 1. System of seed multiplication and distribution	Sept. 19	Susan R. Brena
Seminar 2. Efforts to improve rice quality both on-farm and down the value chain	Oct. 19	Manuel Jose C. Regalado Marissa V. Romero
Seminar 3. Water-User Association	Nov. 16	Evangeline B. Sibayan/ Kristine S. Pascual





#### 1. Seminars (cont.)

#### Observations and experiences

- Great opportunity to share and learn/gain knowledge from other resource persons
- Some participants were articulate but interaction was limited due to limited time and time delays from speakers to the audience
- Long waiting time from setting/connecting until completion of the seminar due to time differences and multiple speakers (almost midnight in the Philippines)



#### 1. Seminars (cont.)

#### Observations and experiences

- No feedback from the audience while speakers were delivering the topic
- Difficult for speakers to establish rapport and interact with passive and distant audience
- Technical problems occurred like presentation could not be seen by the audience

#### 1. Seminars (cont.)

#### Recommendations

- Face-to-face seminars will be more effective, as more interaction and participation will be enabled
- Maximum of two speakers per seminar
- Improve technology on video conferencing to shorten time delays from speaker to the audience, and limit technical problems (connection, video, audio)

#### **Training of Extension Agronomists**

**Phase 1** - Season-Long Rice Farming Program for Extension Agronomists of Sub-Saharan Countries (2011-2013)

Start of collaboration between and among JICA, IRRI, and PhilRice





- **2.** Training of Extension Agronomists (cont)
  - Consisted of three courses:
    - 17-week course for extension officers
    - ✓ 3-week course for junior researchers (by IRRI)
    - ✓ 3-week course for research technicians (by IRRI)

- PhilRice teamed up with IRRI to conduct the 17-week course
  - ✓ 16 weeks of training conducted at PhilRice; and 1-week stay at IRRI



- **2.** Training of Extension Agronomists (cont)
  - The trainees learned the fundamentals of rice production (anchored on the *PalayCheck* System), rice-based farming systems, and basic extension methods













- **2.** Training of Extension Agronomists (cont)
  - Learning strategies included:
    - Lectures and Discussions
    - Hands-on Field Activities
    - Participatory Demonstration Trials
    - ✓ Farmers' Field Schools







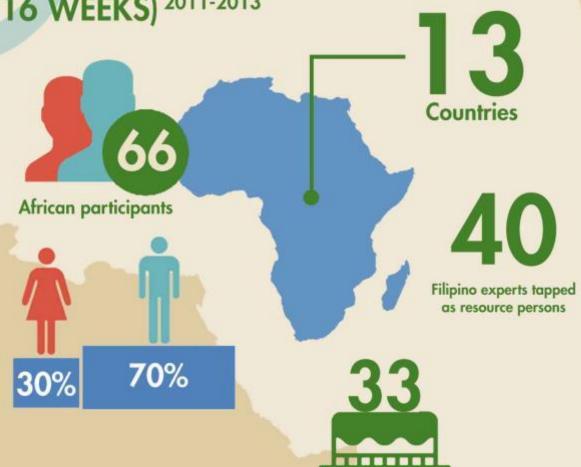


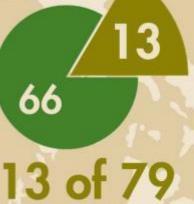




PHASE 1: SEASON-LONG RICE FARMING PROGRAM FOR EXTENSION AGRONOMISTS OF SUB SAHARAN COUNTRIES (16 WEEKS) 2011-2013

Average age





training participants were Filipinos.



32 Average age







**2.** Training of Extension Agronomists (cont)

## **Phase 2** – Rice Seed Production and Extension Methods (2016-2018)

- Focused on improving the rice seed sector of CARD member-countries
- Consisted of 3 courses
  - ✓ 3-week course on quality breeder seed production
  - ✓ 8-week course on rice seed production
  - 2-day in-country training on quality seed production





- **2.** Training of Extension Agronomists (cont)
  - The trainees learned the basics of rice production (anchored on the *PalayCheck* System) with focus on quality rice seed production











- **2.** Training of Extension Agronomists (cont)
  - Learning strategies included:
    - Lectures and Discussions
    - Hands-on Field Activities
    - Laboratory Exercises
    - > Farmers' Field Visits & Evaluation

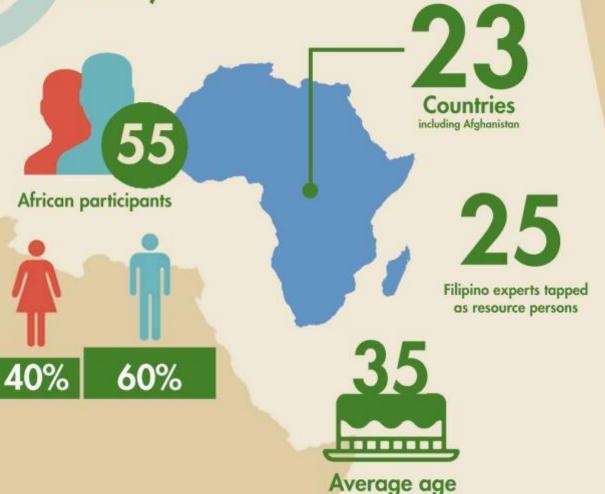


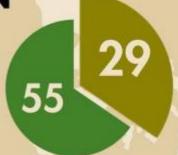




PHASE 2: RICE SEED PRODUCTION AND EXTENSION METHODS

(8 WEEKS) 2016-2018





29 of 84

training participants were Filipinos.

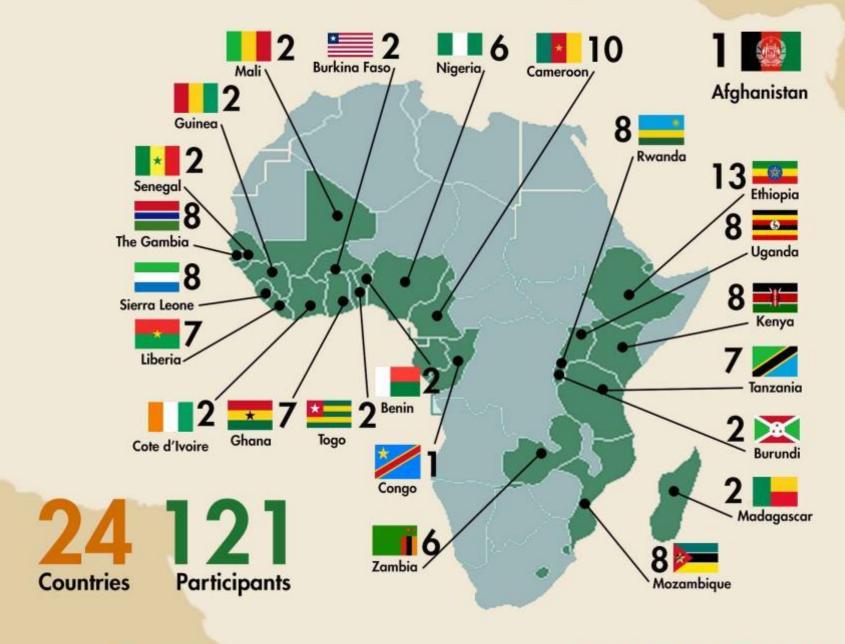


















#### **SUMMARY MAP**

- Conduct of demonstration and FFS by the season-long training graduates
  - Land preparation
  - Development of bunds
  - Transplanting & Proper plant spacing
  - Crop monitoring
  - > Fertilizer management
  - > Timely weed control
  - Quality seed production
- Significant yield increase











- Line transplanting has spread to almost 80% of small farmers at Dakawa small-scale irrigation scheme of 2000ha
- Average paddy yield of 4.5 t/ha







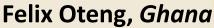


- Positive support from their respective agricultural ministries
- Training of co-extension workers
- 2 SLTP graduates received commendation as Outstanding Extension Workers













- Trainees found the course (rice seed production & extension methods) very timely and appropriate
- A trainee from Uganda started organizing farmers to do seed production
- A Phase I graduate from Cameroon served as a co-facilitator cum translator in the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of RSPE from Francophone countries

#### **Conclusions**

- 1. Seminars & training activities implemented as planned
- 2. Based on feedback, the trainings will help increase rice production in Africa (CARD's objective)
- 3. Great opportunity for PhilRice/Philippines to help JICA in return
- 4. Expanded our rice network in Africa







#### Challenges

- Sustainability of support extended to the trained extensionists from their agriculture ministries (budget, work assignment, logistics)
- 2. Provision of technology updates and technical support for technology promotion delivery
- 3. Trained agronomists-extensionists' commitment/ work assignment remain
- Continue to document and share best practices among trainees, and to other project implementers in Africa





#### **Future**

Expanding rice production in Africa = food (rice) security in Africa, the future rice supplier of other countries









#### Quality Rice. Quality Life.









