



# AMIAHANDA

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The AMIA team, composed of representatives from the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) and University of the Philippines Los Baños Foundation Incorporated (UPLBFI) together with DA Systems-Wide Climate Change Office Director, Alicia Ilaga; DA Secretary, Emmanuel Pinol; Senator Cynthia Villar, and President Rodrigo Duterte during the launching of the AMIA NACCAG Map at the Malacañang Palace last March 7, 2017

## AMIA NACCAG Map officially launched at Malacañang

**MANILA, Philippines**—President Rodrigo Duterte officially launched the Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA) National Color-Coded Agricultural Guide (NACCAG) Map last March 7, 2017 at Rizal Hall, Malacañang Palace.

The presentation was led by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA), Emmanuel Piñol, as assisted by Mr. Rollie Osayan, the Subanen developer of the AMIA NACCAG website. "I wanted an interactive website where the [users] could just type the name of their barangay, town or province [to] access the information they need to improve their farming," Piñol said in one of his social media posts.

The AMIA NACCAG map identifies the areas that are suitable for 20 crops, namely: abaca, banana, cacao, cassava, coconut, coffee, corn, garlic/onion, legumes, mango, oil palm, papaya, pineapple, rice, rubber, sugarcane, sweet potato, taro, vegetables, and yam. The map can be accessed online at [www.farmersguidemap.gov.ph](http://www.farmersguidemap.gov.ph).

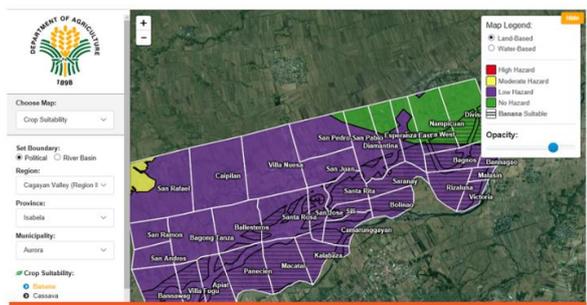
During his speech, Piñol emphasized that the AMIA NACCAG Map is the Department's response on the President's campaign commitment of removing guesswork in Philippine agriculture. Piñol assured that through this map, Filipino farmers will no longer guess on what type of soil they have and what crop is most suitable to be planted in their area because "farmers could just [choose] the name of their region, click the province and the town and go down to the barangay level to determine what crops could be planted based on soil suitability and other [natural] factors."

The map is only one of the major outputs under the AMIA Program of the Department, still a work in progress and will be constantly updated to add features (continued at the back)

## THE AMIA NACCAG MAP

The AMIA NACCAG Map identifies the agricultural areas that are naturally suitable for 20 economically important crops. The most suitable areas only consider the natural characteristics of the soil and land resources and do not yet incorporate management practices such as improvement in soil nutrients. It overlays data on soil properties, elevation, slope, rainfall pattern, temperature, and climate-induced multi-hazards. The map also shows the land-based and water-based hazards in a specific area down to the barangay level. These hazards are color-coded (green-no hazard, violet-one hazard, yellow-two hazards, and red-three or more hazards), and could thus help in the prioritization of plans, programs, and projects related to the agricultural sector.

Specifically, this map can be used as guide in investment planning, research and development, infrastructure, and disaster management. It is also useful for LGUs for preparing their comprehensive land-use plans (CLUPs) and climate change risk reduction measures in line with their Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans (LCCAP).



Screen shot of the AMIA NACCAG website. The map shows the land-based hazards in Barangay Baganihan, Davao City and the total area (in ha) that is suitable for planting rice.

# DA RFOs participate in UPLBFI-IIRR learning workshop



The participants of the learning workshop together with the staff of UPLBFI and IIRR and the faculty of Malinta Elementary School during a field visit at the school's "Gulayan sa Paaralan", one of IIRR's initiatives to alleviate malnutrition.

**SILANG, Cavite**—The UPLB Foundation Incorporated (UPLBFI), together with the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), conducted a capacity-building and learning workshop for DA Regional Teams of AMIA last March 27-29, 2017 in Silang, Cavite.

The workshop, with the theme "Facilitating Community-Based Adaptation for Climate Resilient Agriculture," was held at the headquarters of IIRR as part of a component project spearheaded by UPLBFI entitled

## DA to LMP: AMIA NCCAG Map for climate change adaptation

**MANILA, Philippines**—AMIA Director Alicia Ilaga presented the National Color-Coded Agricultural Guide (NACCAG) Map at the annual General Assembly of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) last March 13, 2017 at the Manila Hotel.

Mayors from all around the country gathered at the annual LMP meeting led by their National President, Hon. Ma. Fe Brondial. With the theme "Pagkakaisa ng LMP Laban sa Droga, Korapsyon, at Kriminalidad", the general assembly revolved around the different programs of the current administration. DA Secretary Emmanuel Piñol also shared the various programs and accomplishments of the administration for the agriculture sector (e.g. the AMIA NACCAG Map.)

Dir. Ilaga further discussed the map's features and how it should be interpreted. According to Dir. Ilaga, climate change does not only affect the lives of the farmers and fisherfolk but also the country's food security. Thus, being primarily an agricultural country, it is essential to include addressing climate change impacts in the programs of the Department.

"Climate change is now at our doorstep. We would need all the help and cooperation that we could get. The solution in combating the adverse effects of climate change should be a unified collective action and massive change across different platforms in the private and public sectors," Ilaga said.

She also emphasized that the best way to cope with it is to prepare our mindset, plans, programs, methods, and tools.

With the color-coded map, AMIA seeks to help build resilient and progressive agriculture and fisheries livelihoods and communities.



AMIA Director Alicia Ilaga presenting the AMIA NACCAG Map.

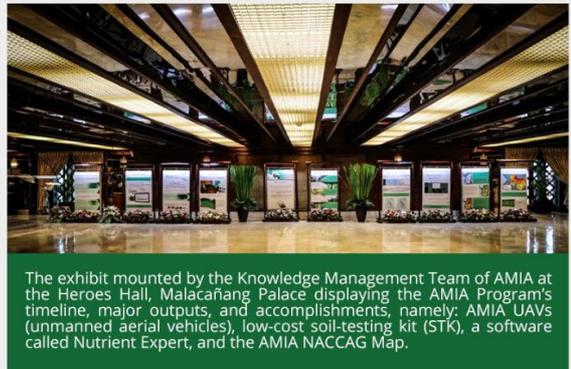
AMIA Knowledge Management Research Program on Building Climate Resilient Livelihoods and Communities. It generally aims to assist the DA RFOs in planning on how they will operationalize the DA-AMIA framework to establish "AMIA villages" in their respective regions, demonstrating strong local resilience.

Among the topics discussed include basic concepts and dimensions of adaptation and mitigation in agri-fisheries for community resilience building, effects of climate change on agriculture and food security, the role of smallholder farms in climate change, nutrition contribution of agriculture and the different school nutrition approaches, integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) at the Local Government Unit (LGU) level, and various principles of community-based adaptation.

Discussions on the second and third days, on the other hand, were focused on the implementation of community-based adaptation including the upscaling strategies and on the discussion of the concept of climate-resilient villages.

Field trips and visits were also organized in the afternoon where the participants were brought to different project sites of IIRR. Some of the sites visited were the Malinta Elementary School that practices "Gulayan sa Paaralan" and the integrated farms of pineapple and coffee in Silang, Cavite.

*...AMIA NCCAG Map officially launched at Malacañang*



The exhibit mounted by the Knowledge Management Team of AMIA at the Heroes Hall, Malacañang Palace displaying the AMIA Program's timeline, major outputs, and accomplishments, namely: AMIA UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles), low-cost soil-testing kit (STK), a software called Nutrient Expert, and the AMIA NACCAG Map.

that could better help the farmers. Among those present during the launching were AMIA Director Alicia Ilaga and the different partner institutions of the program, as well as the different DA Regional Offices, Local Government Units, and government officials.

An exhibit was also conducted to feature the other products of AMIA which include the standardized AMIA UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle), a low-cost soil-test kit (STK), and the Nutrient Expert. Future projects will also include trainings in the succeeding phases of AMIA in order to enable the DA RFOs and LGUs to use these technologies. Other programs of DA that were also presented to the President include the awarding ceremony for the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources' Malinis at Masaganang Karagatan (MMK), the Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority's turnover of facilities for commercial production of pineapple fibers, the MOU signing between the Philippine Rubber Research Institute (PRRI) and Phoenix Petroleum Philippines, Inc., the roadmap signing for coffee and cacao, and the launching and testing of FarmHelp, a mobile app endorsed by the Department of Agriculture.