



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
**ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION
 INITIATIVE IN AGRICULTURE**

We are dedicated to empower agriculture and fishery communities in addressing the impacts of climate change for a climate-resilient Philippine agriculture



BRIEFER

ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION INITIATIVE IN AGRICULTURE (AMIA)

A site-specific approach that aims to reduce negative impacts brought about by various climate hazards. It also provides alternatives, both adaptation and mitigation measures, to build-up resiliency in the agricultural sector through the introduction of innovations that are practical and sustainable.

The main strategy of the AMIA Program to promote the adoption of adaptation and mitigation is through the AMIA Village approach. It is a novel extension mode where the unit of assistance is a group of farmers tilling adjacent lands covering about 100 hectares facing the same climate risk and organized into an AMIA village. They identify their climate risks and select common adaptation strategies. The common adaptation strategy for all AMIA villages is increase productivity and incomes of farmers and fisherfolk. The common adaptation measure is integrated farming and farm diversification. Resilience is built with the adoption of adaptation measures (like multicommodity production, value adding, and income diversification) and the delivery of integrated support services and tailor-fitted to the needs of the community. These services include the timely, relevant, and site-specific climate information via the climate information services or CIS, Community-level CRA technologies, computer-aided decision-making technology, easy access to credit and insurance, and links to markets.

The goal of establishing an AMIA Village is for rural communities/village to undergo transformational change to adapt and to enhance their resilience to the impacts of climate change through the introduction and/or promotion of climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) technologies and other tailor-fitted support services.

HOW TO QUALIFY AS AN AMIA VILLAGE?

All areas are qualified to have an AMIA Village. However, in order to ensure the *success* of a Village, the following are important:



Active and supportive LGUs and other partners

- Involvement of the LGU is important as their support to the goal of setting up an AMIA Village is crucial to its success. It is because the LGUs are at the forefront in delivering services to their constituents.
- The LGUs can provide administrative and even technical assistance to the AMIA Program implementers such as allowing their staff to help in conducting related activities, guidance in context-based decision-making, and supplying additional local resources which are fundamental to any development program such as building a climate-resilient community.
- Apart from the LGUs, the support of other partners on the ground is equally significant to help attain the goal of increasing the adaptive capacities of communities.



Identified AMIA Farmer Cooperators

- Proper selection of AMIA farmer-cooperator is crucial because the bulk of the success of the project depends on their active participation and commitment to the project. The LGUs play an important part in the selection of the AMIA farmer-cooperators as they know their constituents best.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:



Participate actively in related meetings & activities



Motivated



Industrious



Willing to contribute his time, finances, and resources for the betterment of the project



Willing to share his/her knowledge gained to others



A willing partner in data gathering.



Open- minded to adopt new technologies

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION (if FCA is selected as AMIA Cooperator):



The FCA must be active. If not yet registered, assist the FCA to get registered and be accredited



Motivated



Willing to share his/her knowledge gained to others



Willing to contribute his time, finances, and resources for the betterment of the project



A willing partner in data gathering.



Open- minded to adopt new technologies

- Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures can be effective only if the farmers and fisherfolk are working together. As such, once AMIA cooperators have been identified, they will be organized and mobilized, and they will be given integrated and tailor-fitted government support services led by the AMIA Program.

STEPS IN ESTABLISHING AMIA VILLAGES

There are six major steps in establishing an AMIA Village which requires institutional linkages that will promote and enable local communities to manage climate risks while pursuing sustainable livelihoods.



[1] Identifying target location/municipality

- Coordination with officials from the Provincial Agriculture and Veterinary Offices to assist in the determining vulnerability areas based on the Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) Map of the province.
- In case there is no CRVA Map, use the National Color-Coded Guide Map (NCCAG) accessible through *farmersguidemap.da.gov.ph* as another tool in identifying the target location or municipality.
- Active and supportive local government unit (LGU) to all the programs and projects towards the development of the agri-fishery sector as they will serve as frontliners in the establishment of the AMIA Village.
- Consider the level of economic development of the target municipality since the target are those vulnerable areas.

[2] Identifying the AMIA Village

- Once the municipality/ city has been selected, a dialogue with the LGU executives will be conducted in coordination with the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist.
- The identification of AMIA village will be in coordination with the Municipal Agriculture Office
 - a. Target of 100 hectares production are
 - b. Selection of at least 2-3 adjacent barangays
- Gather data pertaining to demographic profile of the barangays
 - a. Necessary to gather data on topography, people, commodities, water source, climate hazards, etc. of the area
 - b. Data gathered will serve as preliminary basis on what CRA technologies will be introduced

[3] Identifying AMIA Farmer Cooperators

- Proper selection of AMIA farmer-cooperator is crucial because bulk of the success of the project depends on their active participation and commitment to the project.
- a. Criteria for selection:
 1. Participate actively in meetings and activities related to agri-fishery development;
 2. Industrious ;
 3. Willing to share his/her knowledge gained to others;
 4. Motivated;
 5. Willing to contribute his time, finances, and resources for the betterment of the project;
 6. Open- minded to adopting change or new technologies;
 7. A willing partner in data gathering.
- b. Criteria for selection (if FCA is selected as AMIA cooperator:
 1. The FCA must be active. If not yet registered, assist the FCA to get registered and be accredited;
 2. Willing to share his/her the knowledge gained to others;
 3. Motivated;
 4. Willing to contribute their time, finances, and resources for the betterment of the project;
 5. Open-minded to adopting change or new technologies;
 6. A willing partner in data gathering.

[4] Organizing/Mobilizing AMIA Farmer Cooperators

- Once AMIA cooperators have been identified, an inception meeting with prospective AMIA cooperators is conducted in coordination with the Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO) to establish partnership, levelling-off of expectations and to let the beneficiaries fully understand their role in the change process.
- Conduct Participatory Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessment (PCRVA). It is essential in determining the climate hazards/risks and vulnerabilities of a particular community and be able to come up with viable solutions/options in addressing such hazards/risks.
- The first 3-6 months of the project must be focused on strengthening the organization by involving the farmers or FCA early in all activities to boost their engagement to the project.

[5] Introducing climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) technologies and conduct of capability-building activities

- Once farmer-cooperators have been organized and mobilized, introduction of appropriate CRA technologies and conduct of capability-building activities to ensure that the CRA technologies introduced will address the issues and problems raised during the conduct of PCRVA/FGD.
- Farmers will decide which technologies are suitable in their areas, making it easier for them to adopt these interventions. Other support services provided to the AMIA Village include easy access to credit and affordable insurance, links to markets, and timely relevant, and site-specific climate- and weather-informed farming and fishing advisories via Climate Information Services, among others.

[6] Continuous monitoring and evaluation

- This is done through reviews of reports, outcome assessment and testimonials. This is important so that emerging conditions and concerns on the ground can be recorded and at the same time, will be addressed accordingly.
- To evaluate whether the ideals and objectives of an AMIA Village are achieved, periodic assessment is conducted. The results of the assessment can help in the decision-making and the planning process to improve delivery of support services.

[7] Graduation of AMIA Village into AMIA CREATE

- A matured AMIA Village graduates from having climate-resilient production into climate-resilient enterprise.
- At this stage, the AMIA Village is a member of a federation of AMIA Villages called AMIA CREATE (Climate resilient Agri-fishery Technology-based Enterprises) organized as a business enterprises.