

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DA - ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION INITIATIVE IN AGRICULTURE (AMIA) PROGRAM ◆VOLUME 5 | ISSUE 4 ◆ OCT - DEC 2024

AMIA climate-resilient villages reach 226, driving adaptation and mitigation efforts in agri-fishery communities

The Department of Agriculture (DA), through its Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA) Program, has successfully established 226 AMIA villages across the Philippines. These villages serve as models for building climate resilience, empowering local communities to manage climate risks and increase adaptive capacities while pursuing sustainable livelihoods.

AMIA Villages are designed as model communities where adaptation and mitigation initiatives are tested and showcased. They act as hubs for institutional linkages and best practices, promoting climateresilient agriculture (CRA) practices. Serving as "lighthouses," these villages guide farmers in learning and adopting different CRA technologies, enabling them to experience increased productivity and incomes amidst climate change. By equipping farmers with the necessary knowledge and tools, AMIA Villages help build their resilience and productivity in an increasingly challenging agricultural environment.

The program currently spans 71 provinces, benefiting

approximately 18,000 farmers and fisherfolk. Region 3 leads with the highest number of AMIA Villages at 23, followed by Regions 9 and 12 at 20 villages each. Meanwhile, several newly established villages have been set up in Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Eastern Visayas, and Soccsksargen.

For adaptation efforts to be effective, it must be done on a wide scale. Recognizing this, the DA transforms and expands AMIA villages from small production units into town or province-level CRA actions to become climateresilient business enterprises.

These then are expanded to cover other villages, scaling out into towns or province level, to take advantage of economies of scale in terms of production and marketing.

The objective is to transform farmers into "agri-preneurs" by assisting them in developing commodities, exploring product development for marketing, and achieving higher incomes. This transformation into marketoriented CRA enterprises is facilitated through the AMIA-CREATE (Climate-Resilient Agri-Fishery Technology-based Enterprises) Framework. Page 4



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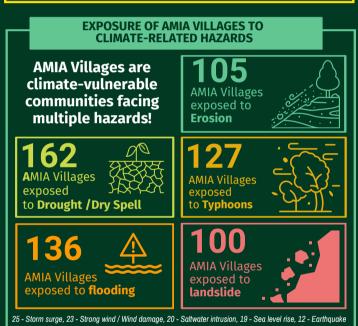
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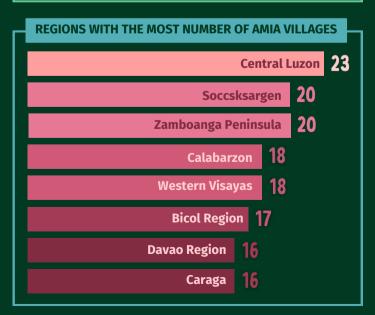
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AMIA VILLAGES IN NUMBERS



| MOST COMMON CRA PRACTICES IN AMIA VILLAGES | |
|--|-------------------|
| Farm Diversification | 226 AMIA VILLAGES |
| Use of Climate Information Services | 226 AMIA VILLAGES |
| Organic Agriculture Practices | 137 AMIA VILLAGES |
| Use of Stress-Tolerant Varieties | 100 AMIA VILLAGES |
| Water Management Technologies | 49 AMIA VILLAGES |







MAS MAGANDANG BUHAY, RAMDAM NG NAKARARAMING MGA MAGSASAKA SA AMIA VILLAGES



Farmers experience increased income and yield, and improved welfare through CRA adoption

IMPACTS OF CRA ADOPTION

Majority answered that the main impact of their CRA adoption was they can now afford to buy new clothes and shoes for children.





Key Findings of the Rapid Assessment on the Climate Resilient Agriculture (CRA) Adoption in Select AMIA Villages

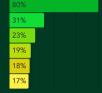
AMIA fosters gender equality & champions the adoption of CRA



No gender disparity observed with very slight difference in sample size between the female and male farmer respondents.

CRA PRACTICES ADOPTED

Farm diversification was overwhelmingly adopted by majority of the farmer respondents. Consequently, it diversified their income Practiced farm diversification
Planted climate-resilient
crops/varieties/seeds
Applied introduced practices
Practiced organic farming
Used decision-support tools



REASONS FOR CRA ADOPTION

Most reasoned that increased income and yield were the greatest factor for their adoption of CRA practices.



Based on the rapid assessment conducted in June 2022, participated in by 1547 farmer respondents from 106 villages across the 15 regions in the Philippines.

IMPACTS OF CRA INTERVENTIONS AS DOCUMENTED IN AMIA VILLAGES

CASE STUDY: NORTHERN MINDANAO

MAGSAYSAY, MISAMIS ORIENTAL AMIA VILLAGE
MINDULAO FARMERS AGRARIAN REFORM COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE

13 to 5

Production (tons/ha)

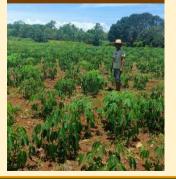
Corn production before vs. after adopting CRA technologies in corn farming



10to 20

Production (tons/ha)

Cassava production before vs. after after adopting CRA technologies in cassava farming



CASE STUDY: NORTHERN MINDANAO

LIBONA, BUKIDNON AMIA VILLAGE

GANGO- KINAWE CPAR PRODUCERS COOPERATIVE

↑3.1₺5.4

Production (tons/ha)

Corn production before vs. after adopting CRA technologies in corn farming



112 to 18

Production (tons/ha)

Cassava production (dry weight) before vs. after after adopting CRA technologies in cassava farming



AMIA climate-resilient villages... (From Page 1)

The development of AMIA villages follows a four-phase approach under the AMIA Development Pathway. In the early phases. communities focus on organizing and building capacity, as well as adopting CRA technologies and practices. As they progress, they move toward establishing climate-resilient enterprises. At the final phase, villages achieve full integration, where farmer beneficiaries demonstrate increased adaptive capacities through higher productivity and incomes. Out of the 226 AMIA

Villages, 86 are in Phase 1, some 111 in Phase 2, 25 in Phase 3, and 4 are operating in Phase 4.

These villages are established through partnerships with the DARegional Field Offices, Local Government Units (LGUs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and the private sector. This collaborative approach ensures that the communities are empowered, receiving tailor-fitted and integrated support services, such as site-specific climate information, CRA technologies, capacity-building on adaptation and disaster risk reduction, decision-making tools,

access to credit and insurance, and market linkages.

The establishment of AMIA Villages is a key strategy in the DA's climate action initiatives. This novel extension model organizes farmers tilling adjacent farmers—covering roughly 100 hectares and facing the same climate risks—into AMIA Villages. Farmers collectively identify the climate risks they face and select appropriate adaptation strategies to help address these risks. The common adaptation strategy for all AMIA villages is to increase productivity and incomes of farmers and

fisherfolk, while the common adaptation measure being adopted is integrated farming and farm diversification.

The AMIA Villages bring transformational change, empowering small and vulnerable agri-fishery communities to ensure that no one is left behind. The AMIA village approach is a community-based adaptation model, providing integrated support to equip farmers with the right knowledge, tools, and resources needed to adapt and thrive in the face of climate change.
(Joy Calvar, DA CRAO)

DA calls for decisive climate action during 17th Annual Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week



The Department of Agriculture (DA), through the Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA), joins the nation in celebrating the Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness (CCC) Week with its opening ceremony on November 19, 2024.

"As we gather to kick off the 17th Annual Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week, we are reminded once more of the urgent call for decisive climate action. President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. has underscored the importance of addressing climate change impacts across all sectors, with a special emphasis on agriculture, where food security, community resilience, and environmental stewardship intersect," **Undersecretary for Operations** Roger V. Navarro said.

In his keynote message, Usec. Navarro stressed that the Department, through the leadership of Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. is pushing for regenerative agriculture and rejuvenation of soils toward building a stronger, climateresilient future for the country.

Under the overarching theme "Bagong Pilipinas, Bagong Bansang Matatag", the 17th CCC Week highlights DA-AMIA's subtheme, "Aksyon at Adaptasyon ng Makabagong Henerasyon", emphasizing the need for innovative, forward-thinking solutions to address climate change.

"For us in the DA, this means strengthening the foundation of progressive and resilient communities that we have begun through our various climate resiliency-building initiatives under the AMIA Program and other DA programs," Usec. Navarro said.

"As such, let us work together with a renewed sense of purpose-embracing climate action not only as an afterthought but as an integral part of every program and service that we deliver at the Department," he added.

As a highlight of the event, DA-AMIA set up a photo exhibit showcasing inspiring stories from AMIA villages and CREATES (Climate Resilient Agriculture Technologies) that have adopted climate-resilient agricultural practices.

The DA-Regional Field Office (RFO) 12 AMIA Program Team emerged as the big winner of the DA-AMIA Communication Photo Contest with its entry "Increased

Productivity, Increased Adaptive Capacity," which highlighted the Riverside Farmers Association in Tulunan, Cotabato Province AMIA Village. DA-RFO 5 "Bicolana: Angat at Sagana", DA-RFO 9 "Eggs-traordinary Love in an Eggs-traordinary Farm" and DA-RFO 3 "Mga Bagong Teknik sa Pagsasaka, Mayabong na Ampalaya ang Bunga" were runners-up. These visual stories reflect the resilience and determination of Filipino farmers in adapting to the changing climate.

Pursuant with Presidential Proclamation No. 1667, series of 2008, CCC Week is observed annually from November 19 to 25, aiming to raise awareness about global warming and its wide-ranging impacts, particularly on the agriculture sector. (Kristel Joyce Merle, DA-AFID)

AMIA leader wins Philippine Resilience Award 2024



ecilia G. Quipayo, Board Member of CVT Agri Resilient Farmers Organization Incorporated (CARFI) in AMIA Village at Barangay Cagbunga, Pamplona, Camarines Sur, is one of the awardees of this year's Philippine Resilience Award (PRA). Organized by the National Resilience Council, the awarding ceremony was held on November 25, 2024.

The Climate Change Commission, in partnership with the Office of Senator Loren Legarda, National Resilience Council, Philippine Commission on Women, Private

Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies, Women's International Network on DRR Philippines, and SM Prime conducted the PRA 2024 to recognize individuals and organizations making significant contributions to building climate resilience in the Philippines.

The event aimed at celebrating the significant milestones that have shaped the country's climate change and disaster risk reduction policies and its leadership in global stage, as well as salute Filipino women and youth champions

whose grassroots work in disaster resiliency, amd climate change adaptation and mitigation have shown significant impacts in building community resilience.

Under Quipayo's leadership and with the guidance of DA Bicol's AMIA Team, CARFI has implemented various strategies to combat the impacts of climate change on local agriculture. These initiatives have not only increased the resilience of local agriculture but have also significantly improved the livelihoods of farmers in Barangay Cagbunga. (DA Bicol)

Masbate AMIA cooperative bags 1st Place in DENR's 'Mga Kwentong Klima-Likasan 2024' Competition

A farmers' cooperative in Mandaon, Masbate, engaged in the DA AMIA Program, has won the top prize in a competition organized by the Department of **Environment and Natural** Resources (DENR).

The Alas Farmers Agriculture Cooperative of Mandaon secured the 1st Place in the Group Category of the DENR's "Mga Kwentong Klima-Likasan Tungo sa Katatagan" 2024 competition. The award recognized the cooperative's dedication to sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and environmental conservation.

Established in 2021 as an AMIA Village, farmer-members of the cooperative practice farm diversification, use of stresstolerant varieties, organic agriculture, and use of climate information services as their climate resilient agriculture practices.





Technical Editor: MARIA JANNELL FELIZ TALAVERA Layout & Design: JOY CALVAR

KRISTEL JOYCE MERLE | DA BICOL | DA AMIA REGIONAL COMMUNICATION FOCAL POINTS

Consulting Editor: PERLA G. BALTAZAR

Editorial Adviser: DIR. ALICIA G. ILAGA

DA CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE OFFICE PCAF Bldg., DA Compound, Elliptical Rd., Quezon City, Philippi Telephone: +63 (2) 273-2489; +63 (2) 928-8741 to 64 loc. 2489 Email: amiacreate.da@gmail.com | Website: amia.da.gov.ph Facebook: @AMIA.PH | Youtube: @da-amiaprogram

