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Thailand - Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-Ag) Inception Report

Inception Workshop Overview

Date: 6 October 2016

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers: Organization of Agricultural Economics (OAE) of Thailand, FAO, UNDP

The Inception Workshop of the *Integration of Agriculture into the National Adaptation Plan* programme in Thailand was attended by 33 participants from key governmental departments, including the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Bureau of Agricultural Economic Research, and Kasetsart University. Formal invitations were sent to the Director General of each technical working group department.

Workshop Objectives:

- To outline the *Integration of Agriculture into the National Adaptation Plan* programme;
- To seek approval from the stakeholders for a National Adaptation Plan for the agriculture sectors;
- To outline how the NAP-Ag will integrate with the existing Climate Change Strategic Plan for the agriculture sectors;
- To introduce climate change screening and cost benefit analysis tools for enhancing agricultural sector adaptation planning.

Highlights:

- The Deputy Secretary of the OAE, Mrs. Chanthida Meedeche, gave a briefing on the collaboration between FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture (MOAC), and reported on the progress of the MOAC Climate Change Strategic Plan for the Agriculture Sector (2017-2021);
- The 2nd session was led by Glenn Hodes and Pawin Talerngsri from UNDP, and Beau Damen from FAO. Mr. Hodes gave an overview of the NAP-Ag Global Programme, Thailand's NAP road map and the NAP process to integrate the agriculture sectors into the NAP. Ms. Ienkae Saenghkaew (DAI) presented the NAP-Ag work plan covering outputs and activities;
- Dr. Areeya Obidiegwu and Mr. Ray Purcell presented on their work on climate change screening and programme appraisal, which assesses the effectiveness of institutional processes for climate change adaptation planning and budgeting;
- In the feedback session, participants raised questions about the project budget and benefits of the project to MoAC and farmers. The salient points included the following:

- Reaffirming that the NAP-Ag process is not a research development project, but a process of mainstreaming climate change adaptation into agricultural sectors' policies, plans and budgets;
- While activities will not be directly implemented with farmers, benefits are expected to accrue to farmers through increased effectiveness of policy and planning;
- Investment appraisal tools such as cost-benefit analysis (CBA) allow one to compare projects with their alternatives in the context of different climate change scenarios.

Country Priorities:

1. Strengthening adaptation in the Climate Change Strategic Plan for agriculture;
2. Strengthening performance-based monitoring and assessments of adaptation options in agriculture and mainstreaming, and climate finance;
3. Assessing climate change variability, such as forecasting and early warning systems;
4. Capacity building for farmers: Build regional climate resilience by serving as a knowledge hub to foster regional cooperation and exchange experiences on adaptation.

Work Plan Summary:

OUTCOME 1	Timeline
Output 1.1: Capacity with vulnerability assessment and adaptation strengthened	2016-2018
Output 1.2: Enhanced MoAC capacity with economic valuation and investment appraisal tools for adaptation-sensitive planning	2016
Output 1.3: Developed training materials based on needs identified	2016
OUTCOME 2	
Output 2.1: 'Strategic Plan on Climate Change in Agriculture' outlines priority climate change adaptation (CCA) measures and actions for mainstreaming risks into planning and budgeting	2016-2017
Output 2.2: Mainstreaming CCA into sector budgeting	2016-2018
OUTCOME 3	
Output 3.1: Develop tools for monitoring systems for field adaptation practices (performance-based monitoring and assessment)	2017-2018
Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of MoAC monitoring units for monitoring the impact and effectiveness of adaptation	2017
OUTCOME 4	
Output 4.1: Interdepartmental and inter-ministerial coordination in MoAC for CCA improved	2017-2018
Output 4.2: Project lessons learnt and outputs integrated into broader Thailand NAP processes	2016-2018

Results:

- The stakeholders present gave an endorsement of the NAP-Ag programme;
- Stakeholders endorsed the four outcomes outlined and their proposed timeline of implementation;
- Stakeholders encouraged synergies with ONEP (Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning) which has already conducted vulnerability assessments, to minimise duplication of efforts.

This overview was generated by the Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-Ag) Programme. The full Inception Report and information on other NAP-Ag activities in the Philippines can be found on the following pages:

www.fao.org/in-action/naps/partner-countries/Thailand
www.adaptation-undp.org/naps-agriculture/partner-countries/Thailand