

reach farther. For over two decades of existence, IAF has developed partnership with various institutions such as the Upland NGO Assistance Committee, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Development Bank of the Philippines, Department of Agriculture—Bureau of Agricultural Research, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) and Energy Development Corporation.

The Institute serves as the National Secretariat of the Philippine Agroforestry Education and Research Network (PAFERN), a coalition of **35** agroforestry institutions engaged in agroforestry education, research and development. IAF is also a focal institution of the Southeast Asian Network for Agroforestry Education (SEANAPE), a regional agroforestry network of 77 institutions.

Responding to requests for technical assistance, conducting on-site training follow-up activities, and disseminating relevant agroforestry information materials not only widens the Institute's reach to various stakeholders but, more importantly, opens new roads for IAF to explore

SUSTAINING EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES

The stakes of the environment and the people will continue to become higher. The 21st century ushers in uncertain roads full of economic and environmental challenges and opportunities. IAF will sustain its efforts of assisting the local people and institutions to ensure sustainable natural resources management in the country.

The Institute's belief in the power of proactive research and development programs, and creative

partnership and collaboration will serve as the guiding light in facing the challenges and tapping the opportunities ahead. With the concerned efforts of seconded and full-time staff members, and the support of the University, IAF will sustain its initiatives that began in 1991—now even harder and more intensified.

WORKING COLLECTIVELY

The Institute is headed by the seconded/part-time Director alternately being drawn from the College of Agriculture and the College of Forestry and Natural Resources. IAF is manned by full-time technical and administrative staff with expertise in various fields to include agronomy, animal science, forestry, agricultural education, communication, environmental science, and agroforestry.

While IAF is housed structurally at the College of Forestry and Natural Resources, it still maintains its university-wide character. Faculty members from different UPLB units are tapped as seconded staff to implement collaborative projects of the Institute. These faculty members are experts in horticulture, agricultural systems, agronomy, soil science, engineering, economics, forestry, rural sociology, social forestry, silviculture, biological science, and environmental science.

INSTITUTE OF AGROFORESTRY

2/F Tamesis Hall, CFNR, UP Los Baños
College, Laguna 4031
Telefax: +63 49 536 3809
Email: agro_cfnr@yahoo.com
Website: www.uplb-iaf.org.ph

institute of agroforestry

“intensifying agroforestry promotion towards sustainable natural resources management”



University of the Philippines Los Baños
College of Forestry and Natural Resources



As a land use management system, agroforestry has gained worldwide recognition through the years. Many have learned about its multi-functionality from practitioners who have long been combining the production of trees with food crops, animals and other resources in their farms. Its potentials of ensuring food security, improving socio-economic productivity, and maintaining ecological stability have been recognized. More importantly, the capabilities of agroforestry as a strategy for climate change mitigation and adaptation have been realized

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Agroforestry is vigorously being promoted by government agencies, non-government organizations, academic institutions and other stakeholders for sustainable natural resources management in the Philippines. As a premier university in promoting agricultural and natural resources management, the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) created the UPLB Agroforestry Program in 1991 as its research and extension arm in agroforestry technology development and promotion. The Program was elevated into an Institute of Agroforestry (IAF) in 1998. This move further ascertained IAF's role in agroforestry development and promotion in the country.

The new millennium poses bigger and even more difficult challenges. The global climate change poses threats to farming activities and environment, and ultimately to the food security of smallholder farmers and vulnerable communities.

The Institute envisions forming progressive and productive communities where farming is harmonized with environmental conservation principles for sustained production of food, wood and provision of services through the use of sound agroforestry practices.

PURSUING A COMMITMENT

To attain its vision, IAF pursues its four mandates:

Facilitating Agroforestry Education Development

The Institute works towards strengthening and safeguarding the quality of agroforestry education to respond to the challenging needs in the country and in the region. IAF also catalyzes and facilitates agroforestry curriculum development programs at UPLB. Agroforestry education researches are likewise being carried out to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of formal and non-formal agroforestry education programs.

Developing Responsive Agroforestry Research Program

By implementing a comprehensive research program, the Institute documents and evaluates different agroforestry models, and develops and field-tests agroforestry technologies for sustainable natural resources management. These research undertakings aim to advance the science of agroforestry, move the cutting edge of research in agroforestry, and improve the practice of agroforestry among farming communities.

IAF also maintains a 8.1 hectare Learning Laboratory for Agroforestry (LLA). Showcasing different agroforestry systems and technologies, the LLA serves as the learning laboratory of agriculture, forestry and agroforestry classes at UPLB; research are of UPLB staff and graduate students; and, practicum area of training courses being organized by the Institute, other UPLB units, and organizations outside UPLB.

Enhancing Rural Development Services and Policy Advocacy

IAF organizes capability-building program in agroforestry to strengthen the technical capacities of development workers who are engaged in promoting sustainable natural resources management. The Institute works towards reaching out to as many communities as possible through social development NGO's, government agencies, people's organizations, local government units and academic institutions. The Institute proactively develops collaborative projects with various agroforestry stakeholders. An information development and management program is also being maintained to promote information exchange among concerned sectors.

The Institute regularly convenes International, National and Regional Agroforestry Congresses, fora and consultative workshops as its policy advocacy component.

Forging Linkages with Development Organizations

Working always with concerned agencies underlies most of IAF's activities. The Institute is firm that through partnership and synergy, it can do more and