

Overseas Comparative Study Mission for Philippine Carabao Center (PCC) Officials and Staff

*October and November 2015; January 2016
India, Vietnam, and Thailand*

BACKGROUND

The Philippine Carabao Center (PCC) operates as an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture (DA). PCC is mandated under Republic Act No. 7307 or the Philippine Carabao Act of 1992 to conserve, propagate, and promote the carabao or native buffalo as a source of milk and meat as well as draft animal power and hide to benefit the rural farmers. In 2008, PCC took on an additional mandate per DA Administrative Order No. 9, series of 2008, as the National Lead Agency for Livestock Biotechnology Research and Development.

PCC's vision is to become a premier institution promoting profitable and sustainable buffalo-based enterprises designed to augment income, create jobs, and enhance nutrition in rural farming communities. It works for the improvement of the general well-being of rural farming communities through buffalo genetic improvement, technology development and dissemination, and establishment of buffalo-based enterprises, thus ensuring higher income and better nutrition (<http://www.pcc.gov.ph>).

Within this context, the continuing capacity development of high quality and highly committed executives and staff of the PCC to ensure the attainment of its vision and mission is thus deemed vital.

The program would focus on enhancing the competitiveness of the livestock sector (especially on ruminants and smallholders) against the background of inclusive growth and the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015. There is a need for an in-depth understanding of the livestock sector to be able to draw policy implications and recommendations and develop strategic/policy framework on how to push the livestock industry's competitiveness.

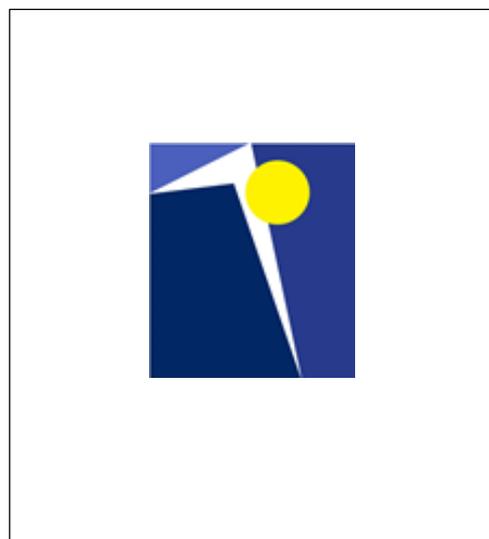
OBJECTIVES

The general objective of the program is to capacitate PCC for it to address the requirements of the livestock sector and enhance its full potential as a major player in the region (and the world) considering AEC 2015 and greater globalization. Specifically, the program aims to:

- Customize and implement an Overseas Comparative Study Mission that will focus on technology sharing, policy support and



PARTNER



ABOUT SEARCA

The Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) is one of the 21 regional centers of excellence of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO). Founded on 27 November 1966, SEARCA is mandated to strengthen institutional capacities in agricultural and rural development in Southeast Asia through graduate scholarship, research and development, and knowledge management. It serves 11 SEAMEO member countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam. SEARCA is hosted by the Government of the Philippines on the campus of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in Laguna, Philippines. It is supported by donations from SEAMEO member and associate member states, other governments, and various international donor agencies.

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reforms, and breed development aligned with efforts on livestock research and biotechnology; and

- Implement an international expert exchange program on areas related to DNA-based biotechniques on genetic evaluation, disease detection and biosafety, breed development, social and policy, and human resource development.

PARTICIPANTS

Relevant PCC officials and key staff will participate in the study missions. Participation is by invitation only.

LEARNING APPROACHES AND METHODOLOGIES

Overall, the Overseas Comparative Studies will adopt the following learning approaches and methods: (1) knowledge levelling and acquisition; (2) field observation and reflection; and (3) integration and action planning.

EXPECTED OUTPUT

Participants are expected to come up with an action plan for review and deliberation in coming up with more concrete and sustainable genetic evaluation, disease detection and biosafety, breed development, social and policy, and human resource development activities for the Philippine livestock sector.

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