

評価調査結果要約表（英文）

1. Outline of the Project	
Country: The Republic of the Philippines	Project title: Season-Long Rice Farming Extension Training
Sector: Agriculture/Agriculture and Fisheries	Cooperation scheme : The Third Country Training Program
Division in charge: Arid and Semi-Arid Farming Area Division, Rural Development Department	Total cost (final figure): 264 million Japanese Yen
Period of cooperation	2011.5~2015.3
	Implementing agency: IRRI (International Rice Research Institute) with PhilRice (Philippine Rice Research Institute)
	Supporting organization in Japan: N.A.
	Other related cooperation: CARD (see below)
1-1. Background of the Project	
<p>The Project is the capacity development of extension officers, junior researchers and research technicians, who are the core promoters of rice production in Africa; it also is a part of the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) initiatives launched in 2008 by the commitment of JICA and the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). JICA entrusted implementation of the training to IRRI, the worldwide authority of rice research located in the Philippines and a member of the CARD Steering Committee. As for implementation of the extension officer course, IRRI collaborated with PhilRice, a long-term development partner of JICA since 1990 and has the capacity for a season-long training. The Project aimed to build the capacity of extension officers, junior researchers and research technicians in the 23 CARD partner countries through JICA's third country training scheme.</p>	
1-2. Project Overview	
(1) Overall Goal	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The model of extension and the techniques learnt in the Philippines are being utilized in farmer support activities in the target African countries. 2. Production knowledge from the courses is available nationally in each country. 3. Networks on the human resource development on rice production, aiming at bridging research-extension, have been created among participants as well as among IRRI, JICA and Africa based rice development agencies. 	
(2) Project Purpose	
Capacity of extension officer, young researcher and research technician participants to develop and extend rice production is improved.	
(3) Outputs	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participants successfully complete the season-long extension training course (SLRT) at PhilRice. 2. Participants successfully complete the 3-week young researcher course. 3. Participants successfully complete the 3-week researcher technician course. 	
(4) Inputs (final figures)	

Japanese side:

The total amount of financial inputs was 264 million yen; out of which 254 million yen was the cost paid to IRRI.

IRRI and PhilRice:

The Project was implemented by IRRI, where a total of six persons were assigned as main Project implementers. The training courses for young researchers and research technician were separately conducted by IRRI, and SLRT for extension agronomists was planned and implemented by IRRI and PhilRice.

Cost covered by IRRI:

All costs were covered by the Japanese side except for the followings:

- The traveling costs of the IRRI Project leader for one inception visit and one follow-up visit both to Africa
- The costs of five African trainees for the SLRT and the technician course¹
- A total of US\$ 24,000 to provide \$400 each to 60 extension officer ex-trainees for the implementation of their action plans.

2. Evaluation Team

JICA team members	Mr. Shiro NABEYA	Senior Assistant Director, Rural Development Department, JICA (Leader)
	Ms. Fumiko Iseki	Researcher, Global Link Management (Evaluation Analysis)
	Ms. Kumiko OGAWA	Project Formulation Advisor, Poverty Reduction Section Human Security Group, JICA Philippines Office
	Ms. Judie Ann G. Militar	Senior Program Officer Human Security Group, JICA Philippines Office
Timing of evaluation	Aug. 3 ~ Aug. 15, 2014	Type of evaluation : Terminal evaluation

3. Result of Evaluation**3-1. Project Performance****(1) Outputs**

Output-1: Participants successfully complete the season-long extension training course at PhilRice.

The Output 1 was mostly achieved except for the gender balance. 63 Africans from 14 countries participated in SLRT, which is equivalent to 97% of the target number. As for the countries, JICA's target was 13 mainly Anglophone CARD countries. On top of that, two trainees from IRRI Burundi participated with IRRI funding. With the addition of Burundi, the number of countries became 14, exceeding the targeted. As for the gender balance, the overall average over the three years was 32%².

Output-2: Participants successfully complete the 3-week young researcher course.

The Output 2 was mostly achieved except for the gender balance. 38 African trainees participated in the young researcher course, equivalent to 83% of the target number. While SLRT was mainly for Anglophone countries, as the young researcher course in 2013 was catered for Francophone countries, the total number of

¹ Two from Burundi in the SLRT, two from Kenyan and one from Tanzanian in the technician course.

² The factors which could affect the gender balance are : 1) the indication in GI (general information) in respective year, 2) the explanation at the time of inception visits, 3) the awareness of respective government which dispatch trainees and 4) the selection by IRRI/JICA etc. However it is assumed that the shortage of women extension workers and researchers are the largest factor.

countries that participated in the course during the entire Project period is 20, out of all the 23 eligible countries, equivalent to 87% of the target (23). Three countries (i.e. Madagascar, Mali and Central Africa), however, could not participate due to security uncertainties. Regarding the gender balance, the overall average over the three years was 29%.

Output-3: Participants successfully complete the 3-week, researcher technician course.

By the end of the Project, Output 3 is expected to be mostly achieved except for the gender balance. A total of 41 African trainees are expected to complete the research technician course, equivalent to 89% of the target. Likewise the young researcher course, the 3rd batch was catered for Francophone countries, and the total number of countries participated is 21 out of 23, equivalent to 91% of the targeted. Two countries (i.e. Madagascar and Central Africa) could not participate due to security uncertainties. Regarding the gender balance, the overall average over the three years was 32%.

(2) Project Purpose

Capacity of extension officer, young researcher and research technician participants to develop and extend rice production is improved.

Project purpose is most likely expected to be achieved by the end of the Project, based on the definition taken by IRRI where the capacity of extension officer, young researcher and technician is defined as being able to confidently explain and apply acquired knowledge and skills in rice production and research by localizing them to their own situations. The Project did not set specific standards as to the minimum level of competency trainees should develop. But rather the emphasis was on maximizing trainees' exposure to new knowledge and skills.

By the time of Terminal Evaluation, each of three courses (for extension officers, young researchers and research technicians) were conducted three times, and a total of 155 (142 Africans and 13 Filipinos³) participants were trained. The number of participants by course was 76 (63 African and 13 Filipino) for SLRT, 38 Africans for young researcher course, and 41 Africans for research technician course.

In SLRT, the theoretical learning was put into practice by test-conducting FFS (Farmers Field School). In young researcher and research technician courses, IRRI made efforts to adequately balance theory and practice, accommodating participant's interests by linking them up with IRRI researchers.

However, it was found that no common understanding had been formed among JICA, IRRI and PhilRice on how to monitor the development of trainees' skills in the course. The Project, at the onset, should have developed a common understanding on definition of the Project Goal, indicators for Evaluation Framework and the monitoring format for regular reporting in the Progress Report.

³ In the 1st year, the Government of Philippine funded 5 extension workers. In the 2nd and 3rd year, JICA funded 8 Filipinos participants.

3-2. Summary of Evaluation Results

(1) Relevance

Relevance of the Project is high in terms of the policies and the needs of the Governments of CARD-member African countries and Japan (GoJ), while there were certain limitations in the strategy of the Project.

The needs and policies of CARD-member African countries.

In sub-Saharan Africa, while the demand for rice has been rapidly growing, regional supply has not met the needs. A reason of increasing demand-supply gap is lower yields in sub-Saharan Africa than in Asia. The underlying causes are considered to be: a) insufficient agricultural infrastructure such as irrigation, b) underdevelopment of appropriate production methods, and c) non-dissemination of basic technologies. Therefore, there is an urgent need in the capacity development of researchers, research technicians and extension workers.

The 23 CARD member countries aim at doubling rice production by 2018. Each government is committed to formulate National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS), in which the human resource development is regarded as an important component.

The policy of GoJ.

The Project is relevant to Japan's ODA policy that emphasizes "human security" and targets vulnerable populations. Agriculture is a priority area of Japan's development assistance policy for Africa. At TICAD IV in 2008, GoJ announced launching of the CARD initiatives with AGRA, aiming at increasing rice production in sub-Saharan Africa to 28 million MT by 2018.

Selection of target counties.

The Project selected all 23 CARD member countries as target. As for SLRT, 13 mainly Anglophone countries are prioritized, as this course requires direct and close interaction of participants with Filipino farmers. The shorter 3-week training courses for the young researcher and research technician target all 23 countries, by allocating the third year for Francophone countries.

Appropriateness of Project design.

IRRI is the lead implementing agency of the Project and on-farm activities of SLRT are taken care of by PhilRice which JICA has long assisted. As IRRI, a CGIAR center, is the leading institution of GRiSP (Global Rice Science Partnership), partnering with Africa Rice Center, its comparative advantage is without question. While the Project is a new experience for JICA to partner with a CG center and a national research institute at once, the existing relationships between JICA and PhilRice, and IRRI and PhilRice are clearly an advantage; the design of the Project is also considered appropriate.

(2) Effectiveness

Most expected Outputs have been achieved or will be achieved by the end of the Project, where each Output is contributing to the materialization of the Project Purpose. Accordingly, based on IRRI's definition, the Project Purpose will be achieved to a significant extent by the end of the Project period.

(3) Efficiency

The efficiency of the Project was moderate. Major portion of inputs were properly utilized to produce the Outputs, except for delay in the procurement of some training materials for SLTP in the second year.

The factors improved the efficiency:

- Synergy with the past assistance of JICA
- Network of JICA and IRRI in Africa
- Inclusion of Filipino participants in SLRT
- English proficiency of Filipino farmers

Constraints on the efficiency:

- Different financial systems among three institutions (JICA, IRRI and PhilRice)
- Delay in transfer of operational funds to PhilRice due to delay in the processing of contracts
- The assignment of tasks at PhilRice (concentration on limited number of staff)
- Change of IRRI member in charge of M&E

(4) Impact

At the time of Terminal Evaluation (TE), the Overall Goals were partially achieved together with other positive impacts. To achieve the Overall Goals by utilizing ex-trainees, IRRI and JICA country offices are expected to encourage partner governments to actively engage ex-trainees in their work.

Overall Goal 1: The model of extension and the techniques learnt in the Philippines are being utilized in farmer support activities in the target African countries.

The Overall Goal 1 is partially achieved at the time of TE. Based on the response to follow-up survey questionnaires and IRRI's reports on follow-up visits in Africa, about half of trainees are actively utilizing the model of extension and the techniques learned at IRRI and PhilRice. Upon return, trainees of three courses, especially those who underwent the 4-month SLRT, are regarded as rice expert in many countries. Changes, attributable to FFS and demonstration, are reported in the areas where ex-trainees are assigned.

Ex-trainees in Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Ethiopia are reported to have developed linkages with projects supported by JICA or a Japanese NGO. In addition, FFS is being promoted as a lead extension method by the Ugandan government which is committed to rice development; this is considered a combined effect of the ex-trainee's initiative and a project supported by JICA ("PRIDE" Project).

During the follow-up visits, many governments showed interests in rolling out TOT by in-country training engaging ex-trainees as core trainers and requested for assistance of IRRI, PhilRice and JICA.

Overall Goal 2: Production knowledge from the courses is available nationally in each country.

The Overall Goal 2 was partially achieved at the time of TE, although the extent of nationwide coverage is not known. Regarding indicator 3-1, while the response of the follow-up survey questionnaire does not directly address the documentation of the nationwide and/or to the national level, 75 % of extension workers and 53% of young scientists distributed educational materials. As to indicator 3-2, while the question was not specifically for national level planning, a few ex-trainees responded in suggestion of contribution at the national level: 1) Insect Pest Control Strategies in Burkina Faso, 2) the Rice Hub Strategy in Gambia and 3) NRDS and the Implementation Framework in Kenya.

Regarding RKB (Rice Knowledge Bank), some countries requested IRRI for its development. As for Rwanda and Burundi, IRRI team, at the end of the follow-up visit in May 2012, conducted the RKB development workshop in each country and succeeded in gaining support from the relevant Ministries.

Overall Goal 3: Networks on the human resource development on rice production, aiming at bridging research-extension, have been created among participants as well as among IRRI, JICA and African based rice development agencies.

The Overall Goal 3 is partially achieved at the time of TE. Network within SLRT graduates was established through Facebook and information actively exchanged. However, the same was not reported for young researcher and research technician courses. The bridging research and extension, and the networking with other relevant agencies and international organization were not sufficiently made.

Some efforts were being made to bridge research and extension. Although follow-up visits to Africa were originally planned only for SLRT, the Project later changed the approach and called all ex-trainees of three courses to the meeting. This provided an occasion for all ex-trainees to interact and link up⁴. As to the networking with JICA's country offices and experts, some positive cases were found as mentioned under Overall Goal 1.

Other positive effects produced by the Project are as follows:

- Promotion of South-South cooperation and strengthening of PhilRice's capacity therein.
- National award/recognitions of the work by ex-trainees.
- Opportunity for international cultural exchange for Filipino farmers and Filipino participants.

(5) Sustainability

As regards the policy environment, the sustainability is high. During follow-up visits, a majority of the governments indicated that the Project came at the right timing, when each CARD member country had started efforts to increase rice production as a country priority based on their newly developed NRDS.

In terms of technical aspects, a majority of ex-trainees more than doubled the skills and knowledge, and become confident in pursuing their tasks in the field of rice. Nevertheless, there are still rooms for ex-trainees to develop their capacity, especially in localizing acquired skills and to upgrade the capacity from individual to the institutional level. One of the assisting tools for this will be the training manual, whose

⁴ As for the Francophone countries, the SLRT was not provided; therefore, the realization of bridging gap between extension-research among three courses was not yet in place.

completion is awaited. Furthermore, the assistance of respective governments and/or institutions where ex-trainees belong holds key to the implementation of action plans. There are cases in some countries where the ex-trainees were tapped into disseminating the model at the institutional level. It is expected that these good practices will be disseminated to other countries through ex-trainees' networks.

3-3. Factors promoting realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning planning

- Participation of PhilRice which JICA has long assisted (it has rich experience in providing training including those bringing theories into practice by FFS).
- Networks of JICA and IRRI in Africa.

(1) Factors concerning implementation processes

- Strong commitment and good hospitality of Filipino facilitators.
- Participation of PhilRice in TICAD-IV and CARD meetings to know African partners.

3-4. Factors inhibiting realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning planning

- Lack of common understanding among JICA, IRRI and PhilRice on M&E indicators.

(2) Factors concerning implementation processes

- Insufficient time for potential candidates to prepare for application.
- Weak dialog with partner governments in defining how best they would utilize ex-trainees upon return.

3-5. Conclusions

Overall the Project has been successful in training close-to planned number of participants. It was also the first time for JICA's rural development sector to fully partner with both an international agricultural research organization (IRRI) and a national research institution (PhilRice) at once and support African agricultural research and extension systems, through which various lessons were learnt.

As regards the relevance, the policy-based needs of CARD member countries and GoJ have been adequately addressed. The Project Purpose of developing the capacity at individual level is considered attainable to a satisfactory level before the Project's close. Efficiency is considered moderate. As to the impacts, it is noteworthy that the Project produced various positive impacts, while the capacity the ex-trainees gained should be better utilized to achieve the Overall Goals. In terms of sustainability, a minor concern remains on the technical aspect in terms of delay in the printing and distribution of the training materials used during training courses.

4. Recommendations and Lessons learned

4-1. Recommendations

To IRRI

1. Complete training manuals and distribute them to participants/ex-participants.
2. Compile the report on follow-up survey questionnaires.
3. Share participants' contacts with relevant stakeholders in each country.

4. Continuously provide consultation to each participant and encourage application of acquired capacities.

To JICA

5. Support ex-participants to link up with relevant stakeholders in each country (including other ex-participants, NRDS taskforce members, project experts and other rice experts).

4-2. Lessons Learned

1. M&E indicators should be agreed upon by relevant stakeholders at an early stage of the project.
2. In scheduling project activities, the time for financial procedures should not be overlooked.
3. Weak dialogue with partner governments at selection stage causes under-utilization of gained capacities of ex-participants.
4. Prospective participants should know, prior to the training, how they can apply for funding to realize their action plans.
5. Overlapping the timing of 3 training courses would be an option to enhance linkages between research and extension.
6. A carefully planned follow-up visit would be a useful opportunity to generate positive effects.