

## ***SOCIAL SCIENCES***

### **1. PARTICIPATIVE CONSTRUCTION OF UPLAND FARMERS CONCEPTS AND EXPECTATIONS OF FARMING SYSTEM IN EASTERN VISAYAS REGION: A CASE STUDY**

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A case study was conducted in the Visayas State College of Agriculture (VISCA) Forest Reservation, Baybay, Leyte to: (1) picture the concepts of upland farmers on their individual upland farms; (2) determine the upland farmers expectation of their farms and what they expect outside interventions; and (3) explore their concepts on environmental issues, laws and community concerns over their upland farms. Data gathering was done through personal and informal interview without the use of a questionnaire and with an indefinite time for conversation. The following conclusions were drawn: 1) They are respondents did not like to be referred to as "Kaingineros"; (2) They are very serious in managing their uplandfarms; 3) The suggested species are giant ipil-ipil, kakawate and pineapple in contour making of their upland farms; 4) Respondents tend to be receptive to upland farming technologies introduced, on issues on upland farm sustainability and did not have specific ideas on forestry laws; and 5) Poverty, lack of employment opportunities, and unavailability of land forming urge the respondents to continue upland farming.

**Keywords:** participative construction, upland farmers, concepts and expectations, upland farming system

## 2. SUCCESSFUL FARMING SYSTEMS IN THE PHILIPPINES A DOCUMENTATION

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Numerous efforts to improve productivity and income of small farmers continuously generated production technologies and developed extension strategies to disseminate proven technologies. Farmers' adoption of recommended technologies however have often been slower and lower than expected, worsening the socio-economic status of the farmers. The study aimed to document success stories of farmers practicing farming systems in attempt to bring to the fore the important role that innovative farmers play in effecting changes in other farmers' practices. The project, which comprehensively documented individual farmers' practices and their farming systems, aimed to analyze and highlight critical factors that contribute to their success as farmer entrepreneurs. Using case analysis, nine models representing specific situations in lowland, upland and hillyland farming systems in the various regions of the country were documented and assessed by a multi-disciplinary technical team from UPLB. The farming systems models include: a) Diversified Vegetable Farming in Hillyland Areas (Atok, Benguet); b) Tomato after Irrigated Rice Production (Batac, Ilocos Norte); c) Diversified Vegetable Production in a Rice-based Farming Systems (Talavera, Nueva Ecija); d) Pineapple and Coffee-based Farming Systems (Tagaytay, Cavite); e) Pond Aquaculture in an Irrigated Lowland Rice-based Farming Systems (Pila, Laguna); f) Lowland Rice-based Farming Systems (Pili, Camarines Sur); g) Irrigated Rice-based Farming Systems (Sibalom, Antique); h) Crop Diversification in Sloping areas (Tabango, Leyte); and i) Fruit-based Systems (Tampakan, South Cotabato). Experiences of Farmers revealed adaptations made on certain recommended technologies based on available resources and situations they are in. Common factors contributory to successful farming systems as highlighted in the project were the following: (1) access to new and appropriate technologies (2) access to government extension support service, product market, availability of resources and (3) personal trait and characteristics.

**Keywords:** farming systems, appropriate technologies, innovative farmers