



Current Status

IFRAS

Indonesia Forum for Rural Advisory Services

STRENGTHENING RURAL ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC

APIRAS Learning Workshop

24-26 January, Bangkok, Thailand



INTRODUCTION ABOUT IFRAS

- A peer group of extension-education colleagues from different backgrounds has found IFRAS as a forum to improve the performance of agricultural extension in Indonesia
- The development of RAS-SEA as Sub Regional Network has encouraged IFRAS to evolve as a CF
- To date, IFRAS has engaged in Agricultural Extension/Advisory Services and co-operated with partners in the country (e.g. IPB University, PAPPi, farmer groups organization, civil society organization, local and national government)
- The main objective of the IFRAS is to highlight the need to strengthen REAS in the national agenda, as an important component of the National Innovation Systems.





KEY INTERVENTIONS

1. Farmer Empowerment Program in Kasepuhan Citorek, Lebak Regency. Increased income through a side business of strawberry cultivation.
2. Engage in an Action research led by a Research Center at IPB University (P2SDM) to strengthen the Rice Estate Community Institutions in three provinces in Indonesia (East Java, Central Java, and South Sumatra).
3. IFRAS also contributes to develop The Rice Estate Community (KEP).
4. Sharing the research findings in various forum (conferences, seminar, and advocacy)
5. Involve in RAS-SEA-led study in Digital RAS





GOVERNANCE

Board of Advisors

Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Division of Research
& Publication

Division of Agriculture,
Livestock and Forestry Sector
Empowerment



FINANCING



Current financing:

1. Mostly the activities of IFRAS were bring together actors involved and benefitting from HEIs, Extension & RAS including PAPPi
2. RASSEA support as consultant
3. Government support



Future plans financing:

1. Membership dues
2. Governments grants (including foreign governments)
3. Private companies support
4. Charitable foundation
5. Fundraising



COMPOSITIONS/MEMBERSHIP

All people and the organizations that are part of IFRAS including:

- (1) Farmers and farmers groups and association,
- (2) Agricultural Extension Workers,
- (3) HEIs.
- (4) NGOs,
- (5) Microfinance Institutions,
- (6) Research Institutions,
- (7) Local and National Government (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Forestry and Local Government),
- (8) Civil society organization.



They actively participate in the activities of the IFRAS.



CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Challenges

- Unbalance quantities between Rural Extension and Advisory Services (REAS) providers and farmers
- Uncertainty of products price and high fluctuation of inputs and outputs prices
- Difficulty in getting adequate, appropriate and continuous funding for the implementation of various developmental activities.

Opportunities

- As many as 38.7 million people work in the agricultural sector. This number is equivalent to 28.61% of the total working population in August 2022 according to the Central Bureau of Statistics (2022)
- The high participation of various stakeholders such as public and private sector, producer organizations, and governments in Rural Extension and Advisory Services (REAS) could contribute to capacity building
- Change in agricultural sector especially in digital agriculture services, new markets and networking.
- Farmers regeneration from government to support agricultural sustainability through millennial programs.



FUTURE PLANS

THREE STAGES FOR BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING A SUSTAINABLE CF

- Workshop on consolidation with the members and maximize communication, networking, partnership and capacity building
- Developing IFRAS strategic plan 2023-2028
- Pilot about RAS in the village



Thank you

