



PhileASNet

Philippine Extension and Advisory Services Network

Bangkok, Thailand
January 24-26, 2023



Its Evolution

- Started as **Philippine Extension Network (PEN), Inc.** in 2001, existed as such until 2013.
Founded by Dr. Virginia R. Cardenas (UPLB); SUC-initiated (President from 2001 to 2010; 9 years)
- **2014:** became **Philippine Extension and Advisory Services Network (PhileASNet)**

Registered May 5, 2014 with the Philippines' Security and Exchange Commission (PRC), the body that legitimizes the existence of organizations and associations in the country.

Key Interventions

■ Extension Organization Leadership and Governance

Lead extension organization; alliance building; organization development for sustainability

■ Knowledge Management

KM systems at the network level; efficient capture and sharing/promotion of knowledge products and resources

■ Capability Building

Strengthening extension competencies of individual members and member institutions' extension service with tested, high impact, best-fit extension curricula and programs

■ Extension Policy Advocacy

Improving extension environment through extension policy determination and initiatives; Extension Research



Addressing:

- Food Security, Poverty Alleviation
- Climate Change
- Youth in Agriculture
- Entrepreneurship
- Gender Matters
- Current issues

Covering:

- EAS Practitioners
 - Farmers
 - Rural women
 - Rural Youth/Young Farmers



Staffing and Governance



■ Board of Directors (BOD) elected by the members

Composed of: President; 3 VPs (Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao); Treasurer; Auditor; Secretary; Press Relations Officer; 2 BODs; Immediate Past President as Ex-Officio member (11)

■ Executive Director

Appointed by the President, who shall prepare the minutes of meeting of the BOD in close coordination with the Secretary; prepares all announcements and preparatory activities for any meeting or assembly; follow-up pending matters

■ Council of Advisers

- All the past presidents of the Network
- Current National Director of the Agricultural Training Institute

■ Administrative and Technical Support

- Staff complement from member institutions
- Job Order staff, as needed
- Volunteer members



Financing

- Membership Fees – one time collection
- Annual Dues
- Savings from Symposium Registration Fees
- Symposium Sponsorship Donation/Institution Sponsorship

Resource Generation Efforts

- Partnership Projects
- Project Proposals



Composition/Membership

- **Individual membership** : **587** 
 - Regular Members
 - Lifetime Membership (50 years old up)
 - ✓ From government development agencies (60%)
 - ✓ LGUs, SUCs, NGOs, Private Organizations, Farmer Organizations, private individuals, graduating agriculture students

- **Institutional membership** : **9** 
 - ✓ National Level: DA Operating Units; other development agencies
 - ✓ Regional Level: DA Regional operating units, LGUs, SUCs, NGO, Farmer Organizations, Private individuals

- **Regional Chapters** : **4** 
 - ✓ Led by ATI- Regional Center, DA-RFO and SUC at the Regional Level



Challenges and Actions Taken

Challenge	Action Taken
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ adhoc nature of governance (no permanent staff) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BODs/Officers also have respective work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure proper and smooth transition of officers/BODs • Council of Advisers more or less permanent to oversee • Link with host institution/body to assist PhilEASNet particularly on grants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not fixed membership number (changeable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - participation fluctuates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular monitoring of membership • Establishment of Regional Chapters • Information Dissemination on PhilEASNet/campaign
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inadequate funds for all the activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step up resource generation efforts through various means, e.g. project proposals; project partnerships, fund raising activities • <i>Currently working on institutional members' regular annual dues</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Harmonization of extension services due to agencies respective mandates, agenda and funds (pluralistic extension issue) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on commonalities as convergence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bureaucracy issues (govt. employess) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested for Special Orders



Opportunities

- High demand for EAS
- Supportive agencies/bodies to PhilEASNet: DA-ATI, DA-PCC, DOST-PCAARRD; Agriculture & Fisheries Network, etc.
- Presence of possible local fund sources for project proposals/project partnerships and other forms of support
 - ✓ *Govt. development agencies and institutions other than DA*
 - ✓ *Political Parties with agriculture and extension agenda: Party List as Congress members*
 - ✓ *Congress Committee on Agriculture for support*
 - ✓ *Private Corporations with agriculture as social responsibility*
- The Mandanas Ruling in the country, transferring extension responsibilities and funds to the LGUs; work with the LGUs on possible interventions
 - e.g. Development of the “Province-Led Agricultural Extension System (PAFES)” where PhilEASNet can offer the NELK and other training programs*
- Foreign fund sources for possible support



Future Plans

- **Focus on digital EAS**
 - **Research:** Digital EAS inventory and promotion of best-fit digital EAS especially those addressing climate change, food security and poverty alleviation; young farmers and rural women and other issues in agriculture, e.g. marketing
 - **Knowledge Management:** prioritize promotion of relevant digital EAS

- **Intensify Capability-Building**
 - Digital Literacy
 - Writing Winning Project Proposals
 - the NELK in the newly created Province-Led Agriculture & Fisheries Extension Centers
 - Other members' (individual and institution) needs/demands

- **Step-up resource generation to fund programmed activities**
 - Project Proposals, Project partnerships, other fund raising activities

- **Building/Expansion of Partnerships**
 - Private Corporations with agriculture & extension as social responsibility
 - Other Government Development Agencies
 - NGO Extension service providers
 - LGUs, Provincial and Municipal levels
 - International: Fellow CFs, other bodies

- **Continues Expansion of Membership for Stability**
 - Establishment of more Regional Chapters; Campaign

References:

PhilEASNet Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024

Constitution and By-Laws

