

# SEANAFAE

...because agroforestry is essential to regional development

The Southeast Asian Network for Agroforestry Education (SEANAFAE) is more than an organization of academic institutions. It is a prime mover in enhancing the capacity of people to “get the institution, science and politics of agroforestry right.”

## ■ Our mission and role

SEANAFAE's mission is to:

*'help improve agroforestry education, training, research and extension, and contribute to socioeconomic development, empowerment of farming communities and sustainable natural resources and environmental management in the Southeast Asian region.'*

SEANAFAE has 82 member institutions in five country networks; in Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Since 1999 the network has been assisting member countries to:

- Prioritize educational needs in agroforestry and natural resources management;
- Access and analyze research outputs, policies, and trends in forestry, agroforestry and natural resources management;
- Agree on regional strategies for developing curricula and teaching materials;
- Strengthen the teaching and research capacities of lecturers in agroforestry and natural resources management ;
- Improve access to appropriate teaching resources;
- Develop and adapt teaching methods and materials to national settings;
- Share agroforestry knowledge and management techniques through media and direct participation;

- Collaborate at the national, regional and international levels on agroforestry projects;
- Strengthen partnerships with government extension agencies, NGOs and farmer organizations;
- Advocate for improved agroforestry education policy among member institutions; and
- Produce graduates with practical knowledge and leadership skills in agroforestry and natural resources management to further national and regional development.

## ■ How we are organized

The SEANAFAE Board is responsible for policy making and developing the network. It meets once a year and consists of the five national network chairs and two other individuals from non-SEANAFAE member institutions. .

The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) hosts the network and provides technical advice through its capacity building specialist based in Bogor, Indonesia.

Each of the five country networks operates autonomously but they are all guided by the board's policy decisions and receive advice and assistance from ICRAF as required.

## Current Projects

SEANAFE is currently in its second phase of operation (2005-2009). Funding support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) has meant that SEANAFE can adopt a project-based approach to achieve its mission.

SEANAFE is currently focusing on three major projects:

- *Markets for agroforestry tree products;*
- *Agroforestry landscape analyses; and*
- *Accelerating forest and environmental policy implementation.*

The projects are broadly aimed at strengthening the teaching capacities of universities and colleges in the region on subjects relating to agroforestry. The projects include major activities such as regional training, national case studies and the development of curriculum modules and training materials. Products produced under these projects are to be translated into five languages and training will disseminate outputs to at least 100 lecturers from SEANAFE member institutions.

## Our Partners

SEANAFE works closely with established networks, government agencies, and regional and international development organizations in building capacities in agroforestry and natural resources education. It also welcomes collaboration with civil society and other non-government organizations involved in promoting the practice and science of agroforestry through either formal or non-formal education.

## Long-term Impacts

In keeping with its mission, SEANAFE aims to increase the visibility of its country networks in the community and policy sectors by:

- Providing technical assistance to national agroforestry and natural resources management related programs;
- Being a source of readily available information on agroforestry and related topics for policy development and advocacy;
- Providing opportunities for students, communities and local governments to become involved in research and development activities related to agroforestry and natural resources management; and
- Being an effective partner of government extension agencies and non-government organizations in disseminating and transferring agroforestry teaching methods and materials.



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