

# 1<sup>st</sup> ISSAAS Bicol Regional Conference

Bicol University College of Science Auditorium  
Legazpi City  
September 17-18, 2009

*Securing Food for Today and the Future*

**Organized by:**



International Society for Southeast  
Asian Agricultural Sciences-  
Philippines (ISSAAS Philippines)

**In collaboration with:**



Bicol University  
Legazpi City

## CONFERENCE RATIONALE

Poverty remains to be the most serious problem afflicting many parts of the world. In the Philippines, about half of the population is rural, with agriculture as their primary and often only source of income. Poverty is most severe in rural areas, where almost 80% of the country's poor people live. Most of them depend for a livelihood on subsistence farming and fishing (Rural Poverty Portal, 2007).

Food security is at the heart of the poverty phenomenon. Addressing poverty is the most important way of reducing food insecurity in the long-term. Attempts to address the twin problem of food security and poverty, however, have become complicated with increasing population and degradation of natural resource-base where production activities are being carried out. One intriguing question posed by one government research planning body is whether agriculture can supply enough food to an increasing population.

With increasing population, there is so much pressure to increase agricultural productivity by using high-yielding varieties (HYVs). The use of HYVs and chemicals in agricultural production has greatly endangered the natural ecosystem and has seriously affected biodiversity.

It cannot be denied that natural resource-base degradation and climate change have direct effects on agricultural productivity and food security. The challenge for Bicol is how to secure food for today and tomorrow amid these issues of climate change, environmental degradation, biodiversity, and population growth. The task of securing food for the Bicolanos is, however, doubly hard because of the region's unenviable geo-location in the "Pacific jinx", characterized by vulnerability to natural calamities. This regional conference of the International Society for Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences (ISSAAS) in Bicol will address this most important issue of food security and other related issues.

## FIRST CALL FOR PAPER/ POSTER ABSTRACTS

The International Society for Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences and the Philippine Association of Agriculturists are inviting scholars and researchers to submit papers or posters that will address the following thematic areas:

- \* Climate Change and Food Production
- \* Food Supply, Nutrition, and Population
- \* Food Security and Biodiversity
- \* Food Safety and Food Technology
- \* Food Supply Chain Efficiency and Responsiveness

However, papers dealing with topics on other agricultural issues may be submitted.

Paper presenters are required to submit their abstracts on or before **August 30, 2009** dealing with the above thematic areas. Soft copy of the abstract may be sent to: [bu\\_rdc@yahoo.com](mailto:bu_rdc@yahoo.com) while those without e-mail account may send the hard copy of the abstract with a CD or diskette file to: Prof. Ida H. Revale, Bicol University Research and Development Center, Legazpi City. Abstracts submitted should follow the following basic requirements:

- Title in bold capital letters and centered on the page width
- Names of authors and affiliations centered on the page width
- Contains not more than 300 words

Full papers in electronic form must be submitted on or before **September 10, 2009** for inclusion in the proceeding of the conference.

Interested participants are advised to submit posters on the above thematic areas on or before **September 12, 2009** following the guidelines below:

- Format/Physical Features: size- 30" x 40"; orientation- portrait layout; material- tarpaulin; color mix- shall fit to a light display background; and content layout- free style
- General Content- The poster shall briefly contain the following: (i) title, researcher, and institutional affiliation; (ii) introduction; (iii) materials and methods; (iv) results and discussion; (v) conclusions and recommendations; and (vi) literature citations and acknowledgement

