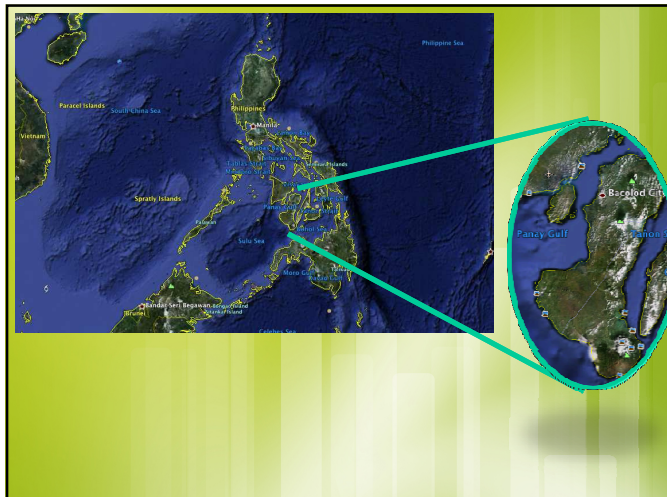


The 2nd International Symposium  
Environmental-Friendly Agriculture based on Community Resources:  
A Strategy for Sustainable Development and Biodiversity  
College of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Japan  
March 1, 2013 to March 6, 2013

## PROMOTION OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE: Experiences in Negros Occidental

JOSE R. MEDINA



## INTRODUCTION

- 1960's agriculture in the Province of Negros Occidental
- successful in meeting the food requirements of its growing population
- agricultural yield have increased significantly
- food prices have become more affordable.
- Green Revolution Movement (GRM) and series of technology transfer initiatives by the Philippine government

## Green Revolution Movement (GRM)

### (+) Increased yield

- Input
  - Synthetic fertilizer
  - Chemical control
  - Monoculture
  - Irrigation
- Technology transfer is top-down

### (-) with continuous use

- High prices and cost
- Pest and disease occurrence
- Dependent of seed to private companies

## Organic Agriculture in the Philippines

- Promising Farming System
  - ✓ Attainment of food security and self-sufficiency
  - ✓ Healthy food
  - ✓ Environmental safety
  - ✓ Reduce poverty
- Organic Agriculture Uses Natural Inputs
  - ✓ Compost
  - ✓ Etc.

## Policies that Pushed Organic Agriculture

- Establishment of the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines in 2001
- Adoption of the Philippine Natural Standard for Organic Agriculture by the Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Products standards in 2002
- Enactment of the Republic Act 10068, or the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010

## Organic Agriculture in the Negros Province

- ONOPRA (Organic Na Negros Producers and Retailers Association) was formed
- Political Support
  - MOA signing
  - Banning of GMO crops, (Provincial Ordinance 007-series of 2007)
  - Formation of local organic certification by NICERT



Governors Amaiz and Marañon sign MOA, in the presence of the President, in August 2005 to unify the island in achieving Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD).



## Organic Agriculture Project by ONOPRA

1. **Alternative Organic Farming Technologies**
2. **Provision of Organic Market**
3. **Island Wide Organic Festival**
4. **Organic Restaurant**

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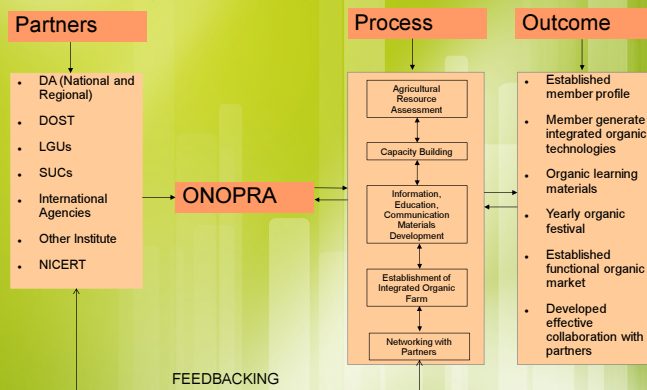
### Organic Agriculture Project by ONOPRA

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Organic Restaurant in Bacolod City, Negros Occidental

## Implementation Strategy for Integrated Organic Agriculture

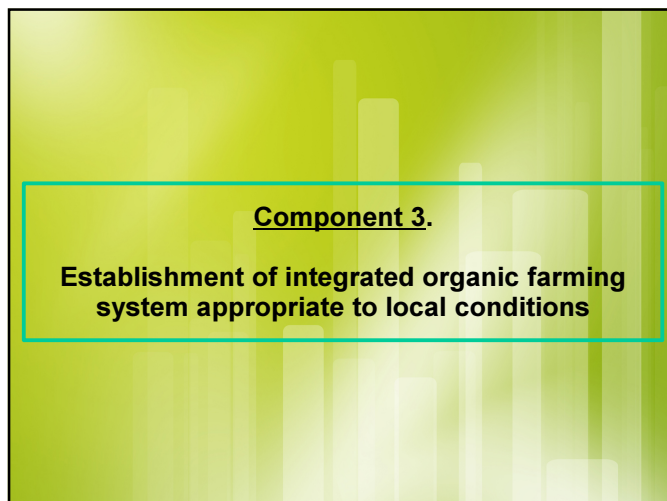


### Component 1:

Biophysical and agro-ecological characterization of the communities are taken.

### Component 2.

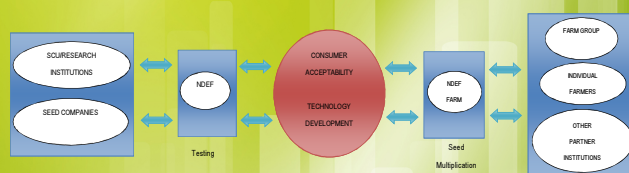
Design and participatory training and development of organic technology materials. The approaches are oriented towards a more interactive and participative exchange of information and technology.





## A Proposed Framework for Integrated Organic Agriculture

### A. Improving farm productivity and sustainable practices by using of inbred seed varieties



### BOX A. Criteria for choosing a variety

1. General Requirements:
  - perform well under organic condition
  - drought and pest resistant
  - uniform maturity
  - withstand environmental variation
  - acceptable yield
2. For marketing:
  - high yield and heavy in weight
  - acceptable sizes, shape and color
  - maintain freshness for large period
3. For Food
  - high in nutrients and vitamins
  - suited for processed food



Criteria for choosing a variety

## A Proposed Framework for Integrated Organic Agriculture

### B. Promoting independent and innovative practices at the farm level

1. Begin with small and manageable organic farming principles that permit farmers to build confidence and abilities to avoid/reduce risks.
2. Develop local leaders with the following characteristics: ability to learn,; successful in growing crop organically; and demonstrate volunteer spirit.

## **A Proposed Framework for Integrated Organic Agriculture**

B. Promoting independent and innovative practices at the farm level

3. Association help facilitate access to organic information, technical materials and provide logistic support.
4. Encourage independent experiential experiments and informal sharing of individual best practices.
5. Trainings must be participatory and self-discovery to improve analytical skills.

## **A Proposed Framework for Integrated Organic Agriculture**

B. Promoting independent and innovative practices at the farm level

6. Employ organic extension workers with experience in organic farming; competent to facilitate and teach organic agriculture through interactive approach; good organizer and sensitive to the local situation of the community.
7. Provide more alliances in the city both in technical and marketing.

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## **PROMOTION OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE: Experiences in Negros Occidental**

Medina, J.R.<sup>1</sup>, Espaldon, J.L.L.O.<sup>2</sup>, Manlubatan, M.B.T.<sup>3</sup>, Lubuguin, G.S.<sup>4</sup>, and R.D.T. Bacongus<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Adjunct Professor, College of Public Affairs and Development, <sup>2</sup>University Research Associate, Ugnayan ng Pahinungod, <sup>3</sup>University Research Associate, Institute of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, <sup>4</sup>University Extension Associate, Ugnayan ng Pahinungod, <sup>5</sup>Associate Professor, College of Public Affairs and Development; University of the Philippines Los Baños, College, 4031, Philippines