



East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum

16th Annual Meeting

2023

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INDIVIDUAL IMPLEMENTING STRATEGY OF THE PHILIPPINES

prepared by the Philippine PVP Office

1. National goal (10-year strategic plan 2018-2027)

- 1-1. To have an effective plant variety protection system that is beneficial in attaining diverse and sustainable agriculture in the country.
- 1-2. To strengthen cooperation endeavors among neighboring countries through a plant variety protection (PVP) system that aims to contribute to the enhancement of plant breeding activities in the Philippines, benefiting both plant breeders and farmers.

2. Objectives with analysis of challenges (for next 3 years)

OBJECTIVES	CHALLENGES
<p>Objective 1</p> <p>To harmonize the systems and procedures of Crop Variety Registration and Plant Variety Protection in the Philippines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Different approach in the conduct of grow - out test or field trial for the two processes ▪ Transition of the Office from manual or analog to a digitalize system
<p>Objective 2</p> <p>To increase awareness on the importance of Plant Variety Protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fallacious impression of some farmers with regard to the Plant Variety Protection such as its importance, procedures and benefits
<p>Objective 3</p> <p>To enhance the capabilities of PVP Examiners and PVPO staff through seminars, training programs, and various cooperative activities in collaboration with local and international organizations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are limited cooperation activities, particularly UPOV-related activities, due to the Philippines not being a member country ▪ Absence of accredited DUS Testing Centers

3. Planned activities and Road map (for next 3 years)

The Philippine Plant Variety Protection Office will carry out the following activities to achieve **Objective 1**, which is harmonizing the systems and procedures of Variety Registration and Protection:

- Convene the Ad hoc Technical Working Group for a series of meetings and workshops to further refine and finalize the draft harmonized general guidelines.;
- Organize meetings between the Examiners of the PVP Office and various Technical Working Groups of the National Seed Industry Council to develop a unified protocol for conducting field testing or grow-out tests. This protocol will be applicable for both variety registration and protection;
- Develop an online system to streamline the Variety Registration and Protection process, covering the submission of application documents to the issuance of the Certificate of Variety Registration and/or Protection;
- Develop and implement a paperless method for conducting Distinctness, Uniformity, and Stability (DUS) evaluations. The evaluation process will utilize tablets equipped with Android application software to gather data and document the distinct characteristics of the applied varieties;
- Collaborate with different government experimental stations to tap them as DUS Testing Sites for the PVP Office; and
- Ensure that all species-specific DUS Test Guidelines of the PVP Office are regularly updated and harmonized with those of other countries with a PVP system.

To ensure the attainment of **Objective No. 2**, the PVP Office needs to undertake the following actions:

- Conduct awareness campaigns aimed at promoting the importance, detailed procedures, and advantages of having Plant Variety Protection in the country;
- Disseminate information, education and communication (IEC) materials such as brochures as well as utilize advertisements through social media platforms to reach a wider audience; and
- Organize seminars for various stakeholders to provide them with information and enhance their understanding of Plant Variety Protection.

For the **3rd Objective**, the following activities are crucial:

- Continue the participation in various cooperation activities such as international trainings on PVP offered by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). This also includes involvement in the various seminars and workshops facilitated by neighboring countries as well as other foreign countries with PVP system in place.
- An initiative is currently being implemented to train and capacitate the examiners or experts of the Philippine PVP Office in collaboration with the Dutch Government and the Netherlands Inspection Service for Horticulture, also known as Naktuinbouw. This is part of the Knowledge Transfer Project granted by the Dutch government to the Philippines.

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