

29 August 2022

LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV

Regional Executive Director – MIMAROPA

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Dear **RED Claudio**:

The Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) are pleased to invite you or your representative to the **High-Level Policy Forum on Rural Transformation in the Philippines: Pathways, Policies, and Prospects** to be held in hybrid format, in-person at Luxent Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines and online via Zoom on 8-9 September 2022.

The forum generally aims to provide a venue for a multi-stakeholder discussion on the state of rural transformation in the Philippines and how the country compares with its neighboring Asia-Pacific countries in terms of pathways, policies, and prospects.

Specifically, the forum aims to:

1. Disseminate the results and policy recommendations of the IFAD-funded project on rural regional transformation (RRT), particularly the Philippine component, to policymakers and key stakeholders;
2. Solicit policy recommendations and concrete plans of action on how to support rural transformation in the Philippines;
3. Benchmark rural transformation in the Philippines with other Asia-Pacific countries to identify the challenges, gaps, and opportunities toward achieving faster and more inclusive rural transformation and poverty eradication in the country; and
4. Discuss the organization of a Technical Working Group on Agriculture and Rural Development under the Network of Policy Advisors and Analysts in the ASEAN Region (NePAAA).




Additional information about the forum can be found in the attached concept note.

Should you decide to accept our invitation **please register for the event at <https://bit.ly/RRTHLPF22> on or before 2 September 2022.**

For questions or clarifications, please contact Ms. Bernice Anne D. De Torres, Program Specialist of SEARCA's Research and Thought Leadership Department (RTLTD) through email at bacd@searca.org (cc: dbnm@searca.org) or telephone (+63 2) 8657 1300 to 02 (local 3403).

We look forward to your favorable response to this invitation.

Truly yours,


Maria Cristeta N. Cuaresma, PhD
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SEARCA
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