

## **Announcement**

# **2003 International Training Course on PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (PR&D)**

### **Course Objectives**

The training course aims to enable participants:

1. To develop a better appreciation of the value-adding potential of participatory approaches in agricultural and natural resources management R&D.
2. To increase understanding of PR&D concepts and principles.
3. To plan and implement activities for assessment and diagnosis, action research, dissemination and scaling up, and facilitating local R&D.
4. To improve management of PR&D projects.

### **Duration, Schedule and Venue**

The three-week course will be held on 6-24 October 2003 in the Philippines. Main venue is the university-research community of Los Baños, Laguna which is approximately 60 km from Manila. The one-week field practicum for the course is tentatively set in Central Luzon, 90 km north of Manila.

### **Target Participants**

The course is designed for agricultural researchers and development specialists, from national and international organizations, engaged in or seeking to apply participatory approaches in their research and development programs. In previous years, participants came from 18 countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

### **Course Organizers**

The lead organizer for the course is the Users' Perspectives With Agricultural Research and Development (UPWARD) Network. UPWARD is a Philippines-based Asian network of participatory research and development professionals working to increase participation by farmers and other users of agricultural technology in research and development. The Network is sponsored by the International Potato Center (CIP) and supported by The Netherlands Government.

Course co-organizers include partner Centers of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), Wageningen University and Research System (WURS), international and local NGOs, universities, public-sector agencies and community groups in the Philippines.

### **Training Methodologies and Output**

Classroom discussion, case analysis, field exercises and practicum, individual mentoring/consultation, and project/institutional visits. The course will be conducted in English.

As final course requirement, participants are expected to produce individual action plans/proposals focusing on PR&D activities they intend to carry out upon return to work. Mentors will be assigned to supervise individual participants during action planning. Participants are required to present their action plans during a critiquing session with an external panel of resource persons. Post-training monitoring and support may be provided by UPWARD.

## **Course Structure and Learning Content**

The course is divided into five main modules focusing on the following themes and topics:

*Introduction to PR&D:* Current challenges and opportunities facing the agricultural R&D professional, emergence of participatory approaches in agricultural R&D, basic concepts and principles in PR&D, moving from PR&D concept to practice, key issues in participatory R&D.

*Assessment and Diagnosis:* Understanding local needs and problems, stakeholder and gender analyses, developing an integrated social and technical framework, participatory methods and tools, planning and implementation of assessment/diagnostic activities, critical assessment of PRA.

*Action Research, Dissemination and Scaling Up:* Moving from assessment/ diagnosis to action research, experimenting and learning with local people, participatory technology development, development of protocols for participatory learning, dissemination and scaling up of innovations.

*Facilitating Local R&D:* Sustaining and institutionalizing local innovation, capacity development for local people and organizations, advocacy and building inter-institutional partnerships, enhancing household/ community decision-making and collective action.

*Managing Participatory R&D Projects:* Strategies for planning, implementing and evaluating PR&D projects, leadership and team building, conflict management, development of facilitation skills, project conceptualization and development, resource mobilization, project monitoring and evaluation.

## **Fees**

US\$1800 to cover training costs, course-related travel, materials, meals, accommodation (double room occupancy) and insurance. Excludes travel to and from training venue, and allowance for participants' daily miscellaneous expenses. Limited number of partial fellowships available.

## **Inquiries**

For details and applications, contact UPWARD through email [cip-manila@cgiar.org](mailto:cip-manila@cgiar.org), tel. 63-49-5360235, fax 63-49-5361662. Deadline for application is 31 May 2003. Additional information will also be made available at [www.esiap.cipotato.org/upward](http://www.esiap.cipotato.org/upward).