

IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT (IA) ON SPECIFIC AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINE CARABAO CENTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND ON SWAMP AND DAIRY BUFFALO PRODUCTION

Philippine Carabao Center (PCC), attached agency of the Department of Agriculture of the Republic of the Philippines and the Department of Livestock Development (DLD) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Kingdom of Thailand, hereinafter referred to jointly as "Participants" and individually as a "Participant" in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Agricultural Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand signed on 19 October 2003 in Bangkok;

Desiring to enhance the existing friendly relations between the two Participants, and to broaden the scope of scientific and technical cooperation as well as to strengthen mutual research cooperation on swamp and dairy buffalo breeding, reproductive biotechnologies, nutrition and forage production;

Recognizing that cooperation involves working together toward common goals of mutual interest and that successful cooperation occurs only through mutual understanding and the efficient administration of joint programs;

Have reached the following understanding:

**Paragraph I
Purpose of Cooperation**

The Participants will establish and promote cooperation and exchange in the areas of swamp and dairy buffalo, and forage production on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, in accordance with relevant laws and regulations of the two countries. The cooperative activities under this IA will be conducted with the following objectives:

1. To promote exchange and collaboration among scientists in the field of swamp and dairy buffalo breeding and reproductive technologies, forage production and nutrition management from the Participants;
2. To provide researchers and scientists with opportunities to exchange knowledge, information, ideas, skills, and techniques;
3. To expand collaborative opportunities to address swamp and dairy buffalo and forage production issues of common concern;
4. To encourage the participation of the Participants in the projects carried out under this IA.

**Paragraph II
Areas and Scope of Cooperation**

The specific areas of cooperation may include, but not limited to, such areas of mutual interests relating to swamp and dairy buffalo, as follows:

1. Breeding and reproductive technologies;
2. Forage production and nutrition management;
3. Dairy buffalo farm management and dairy plant operation;
4. Dairy buffalo processing products development for value adding and packaging technology.

Paragraph III Forms of Cooperation

The cooperation will be carried out by the Participants in the following forms:

1. Undertaking collaborative researches as well as sharing of expertise on swamp and dairy buffalo production, including but not limited to breeding genetic improvement, reproductive technologies, nutrition management, forages and buffalo-derived products;
2. Sharing frozen semen of dairy buffalo from the Philippines to Thailand subject to applicable OIE regulations and protocols on FMD and other diseases;
3. Sharing forage seeds/planting materials;
4. Exchanging of scientists, experts and researchers;
5. Updating knowledge, information, research progress and results on the subjects of mutual interests through workshops, study tours, training courses, project consultations and seminars, which will be held alternately in the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of the Philippines.

Paragraph IV General Provisions

It is mutually understood by the Participants that:

1. All activities under this IA should be carried out in strict adherence to the laws and regulations of the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Thailand.
2. Outlines covering goals and objectives, working plans, research methodologies, and procedures may be prepared jointly.
3. This IA does not restrict either Party from participating in activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies, organizations or individuals.
4. Reciprocal visits by researchers and scientists from the PCC and the DLD may be encouraged or planned in order to carry out new collaborative research for additional long-term exchanges.
5. The Participants will attempt to resolve any dispute regarding the implementation or interpretation of this IA through friendly and timely consultations.

Paragraph V Implementing Mechanism

The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) will be established to monitor and implement the provisions of this IA. The head of JSC will be high level officers. The JSC will be responsible for assessing the outcomes of the implementing programs of this IA, submitting proposals for their further development and improvement, and recommending possible ways and means of