



# **Working Group on Sustainable Rural Development Session III C**

**A presentation in behalf of the Working Group  
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# Introduction

- First time that a separate breakout Session dedicated to sustainable rural development has been convened in the PDF
- Aimed at
  - leveling-off the group's diagnosis of the rural sector;
  - identification of gaps and causes; and
  - discussing options and policy recommendations
- Policy Note and Reactions

# Report on the Policy Note

- Modest and relatively stable sector gains and growth have been inadequate
- Current initiatives and programs continue to be hobbled in effectiveness by policy, institutional and funding constraints.

# Reactions on the Policy Note

- Generally in agreement to the status
- Provided detailed assessments and recommendations in specific areas and subsectors in rural development
- Cited the multi-stakeholder supported Philippine Agriculture 2020

# Action Taken

- Buzz Groups formed to discuss the issues raised on the Policy Note and Reaction Papers
- Identified implementation weaknesses:
  - the lack of focus and emphasis on the role of LGUs,
  - the need for real NGA-LGU ‘convergence’,
  - the full realization of decentralized governance as envisioned in the Local Government Code of 1991.
  - land-based bias in planning

# Priority Agenda

- Convergence
  - Optimize resources and efforts with harmonization of programs of DA, DAR, & DENR,
- Decentralization and LGUs
  - harmonization of national government initiatives with LGUs
- Funding
  - rural development agencies remain under-supported and the national agencies have yet to fully engage all stakeholders in implementation

# Action Plan

- A more detailed Action Plan for the next twelve months will now have to be finalized with the identification of the Priority Agenda.
- The next meetings shall monitor implementation stakeholder commitments in the Action Plan.