

AWARENESS AND FACILITATION OF SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT (SLM) IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR - (ATC 04/2008A)

DATE AND VENUE:

Workshop I : 2008 in China

Workshop II : Fall 2009, location to be determined

OVERVIEW:

The project will increase awareness of sustainable land management (SLM) principles, identify land degradation issues and areas for collaboration among APEC economies, increase capacity of women and men involved in decision making about land management in APEC economies to develop SLM policies and targets, and to develop strategies to enable both women and men agricultural land managers to adopt SLM practices relevant to their respective situations.

A phased approach will be adopted, beginning with a facilitated consultation among member economies. An initial workshop will be held in China to gain consensus on SLM principles and endorse a framework for facilitating adoption of SLM. Subsequent steps will include member economy assessment of current SLM status and prioritisation of land degradation issues; development of an SLM Strategy for APEC member economies; and building country capacity to create and implement SLM strategies and action plans for adoption of SLM.

The key objectives of the project are to:

- provide the foundation for awareness of SLM concepts and principles and the development of consensus boundaries for a framework to support adoption of SLM strategies for agriculture.
- provide technical information to women and men involved in decision making within member economies the opportunity to identify the current status of SLM issues, prioritize land degradation and land use issues and associated mechanisms effecting changes in land use and land management, and identify key gaps associated with technical aspects of SLM.
- develop an SLM strategy for APEC to set a direction for future projects on SLM and initiate the building of capacity of women and men to create and implement strategies and action plans to address key SLM issues and gaps in member economies desiring to embrace SLM.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- agricultural land management and land use policy decision makers
- technical specialists responsible for agricultural land
- senior agricultural or resource management economists

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