PROJECT: **Sustainable Rice Straw Management for Bioenergy, Food, and Feed in The Philippines (RiceStrawPH)**

**Problems to be addressed**

The Philippines produces about 14 million tons of rice, leaving the same amount of rice straw spread out in the field.

While rice straw is abundant, it is still perceived to have low value in the Philippines and is not optimally utilized because of its difficulty in collection and lack of opportunity of using rice straw for profitable use. Consequently, rice straw is burned or is left out decaying in the field without proper treatment. This practice causes increased greenhouse gas emission and air pollution that affects human health.

**Objectives**

RiceStrawPH aims to develop sustainable technologies, management practices, and value chain of rice straw in six provinces in the Philippines to add value to farmers and reduce environmental foot print of rice production and related sectors.

Specifically, it targets:

- Adapting and designing logistics models for mechanized collection to enable rice straw feedstock for off-field processing and uses with minimized collection cost corresponding to the specific regions in the Philippines
- Improving technologies for rice straw-based mushroom and ruminant production to increase quality, value, and markets of rice straw.
- Improving technology of bioenergy from rice straw to enable this option for commercialization.
- Piloting and developing the value chain rice- rice straw in the Philippines
- Conducting life cycle assessments to generate research based evidences for policy recommendation on sustainable rice production.
Expected outputs

1. Database and GIS map of rice straw management in the Philippines.
2. Market information and piloted value chain of rice straw for mushroom and ruminant fodder.
4. Improved technologies of rice straw based bioenergy, mushroom and ruminant fodder production
5. Life-cycle assessment based identified best practices of rice straw management

Link to other IRRI projects and programs

1. BMZ-funded IRRI rice straw management project
2. CGIAR- RICE Flagship 2: Upgrading Rice Value Chains
3. CGIAR – RICE Flagship 3: Sustainable Farming Systems

Life cycle of rice production with options on rice straw management

Proponents

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For more information, visit the Rice Knowledge Bank online at rkb.irri.org
or contact the Postharvest team at postharvest@irri.org