

**DAAD-SEARCA Regional Conference**  
**"The Role of DAAD Alumni and SEARCA Fellows in Poverty Alleviation"**  
**31 August - 1 September 2001**  
**SEARCA, College, Laguna, Philippines**

**Rationale and Objectives**

For decades, the problem on how to alleviate poverty has been in our midst. The increasing population, the shift to industrialization, and the seemingly diminishing importance of agriculture have highlighted the contrast in the social and economic status of people in developing and underdeveloped countries. At present, there are many high caliber human resources available in the region that are capable of pioneering activities to solve the problems of poverty and ultimately help provide a better quality of life for all. The potentials of some of these people remain unharnessed because there is just no opportunity or no resources for them to use their faculties and skills to the fullest advantage.

Considering the enormous number of expertise available in the region, countries whose economies are agriculture-based need the assistance of volunteer experts to assist in agriculture development. The spirit of volunteerism among SEARCA fellows and other experts emphasizes the impact of human resource development programs of SEARCA and other funding institutions, which served as partners of SEARCA. It is in this context that a Regional Conference on the Role of DAAD Alumni and SEARCA Fellows in Poverty Alleviation was conceived

**Participants**

Participants are DAAD- SEARCA graduate fellows whose scholarships were funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and SEAMEO SEARCA.

## **Tentative Program**

### **30 August 2001 (Thursday)**

- Arrival of participants. Check in at SEARCA Guesthouse, SIR and other accommodation facilities in Los Banos

### **31 August 2001 (Friday)**

- Registration
- Opening Ceremony
- Keynote Paper Presentation
- Tea/Coffee Break
- Presentation of SEARCA-ASEAN Foundation PROJECT REVEAM
- "Towards Sustainable Agriculture Development and Food Security Through Volunteerism"
- Country Paper Presentations
- Lunch Break
- Continuation of Country Papers
- Workshop
- Presentation of Workshop Outputs and Recommendations

Welcome Party

### **1 September 2001 (Saturday)**

DAAD-SEARCA Fellows Business Meeting  
Presentation of Activities and Plans  
Field Trip/ Lunch at Field Site

Evening  
Farewell Party

### **2 September 2001 (Sunday)**

Departure of participants