

Overview

PROGRAM

The 4th KUIIC will highlight a keynote address from a distinguished speaker and three (3) panel discussions with 4 discussants from the academia, research sector and the government. One of the panel sessions comprise the MS and PhD scholars/researchers who will share the recent accomplishments on their respective studies.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

KOICA scholars will present poster papers during the conference. There will be a dedicated Poster Viewing Session for the posters, accompanied by a session where authors will be present to engage with other participants to discuss their research on agricultural genomics and related fields, and respond to inquiries/questions. Furthermore, all poster abstracts will be featured in our online platform.

EXHIBITORS AND INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION

KOICA-UPLB-IRRI International Conference will also feature various exhibitors highlighting their products, technologies, innovations, services, and publications related to agricultural research and related fields.

Conference Program

4th KOICA-UPLB-IRRI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

*Future-Proofing Agriculture
Through Science and Collaboration*

June 26, 2025

SEARCA, UPLB

Event Programme

Masters of Ceremonies

GRACE C. LACHICA, MSc

*KOICA PhD Scholar
Department of Agriculture and Life Industry
Kangwon National University*

EMMANUEL T. GALANG, MSc

*KOICA PhD Scholar
Department of Plant Bioscience
Pusan National University*

Morning Session

8:00 AM
Registration

8:30 AM
*Welcome &
Opening Remarks*

JOSE V. CAMACHO, Jr., PhD

*Chancellor
University of the Philippines Los Baños*

Special Messages

YVONNE PINTO, PhD

*Director General
International Rice Research Institute*

JUNG YOUNG SUN, PhD

*Country Director
Korea International Cooperation Agency
Philippines*

JAE-SUNG LEE, PhD

*Project Leader
KOICA-IRRI-UPLB Project
International Rice Research Institute*

9:10 AM
*Introduction to the
Keynote Speaker*

NATHANIEL C. BANTAYAN, PhD

*Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension
University of the Philippines Los Baños*

Keynote Lecture

Future-proofing Agriculture

through Science and Collaboration

MERCEDITA A. SOMBILLA, PhD
Center Director
Southeast Asian Regional Center for
Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)

9:55 AM
Grand Picture Taking

10:00 AM
Messages from KPOPNet Members

EDUARDO JIMMY P. QUILANG, PhD
OIC, Office of the Deputy Executive Director for Research
Philippine Rice Research Institute

PETER JAMES ICALIA-GANN, PhD
Chief of the Center for Cellular &
Molecular Medical Research
Mariano Marcos State University

EMMANUEL M. VERA CRUZ, PhD
Vice President for Research and Extension
Central Luzon State University

PROSE IVY G. YEPES, PhD
President
Visayas State University

ALAN P. DARGANTES, PhD
Vice President for Research, Development and Extension
Central Mindanao University

SAMSUDIN S. PANDAY, PhD
Vice President for Resource Generation and
Entrepreneurial Services
University of Southern Mindanao

10:30 AM
Poster Session

12:00 NN
LUNCH AND NETWORKING

Afternoon Session

1st Panel Discussion **AGRC in Action: Strengthening Capacity for Cutting-Edge Agricultural Research**

Moderator
NATHANIEL C. BANTAYAN, PhD
Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension
University of the Philippines Los Baños

REYNALDO V. EBORA, PhD
Executive Director
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and
Natural Resources Research and Development,
Department of Science &
Technology

ROGELIO T. GALERA, Jr., CESO III
Director IV
Commission on Higher Education (CHED)

WILMER S. FAYLON, PhD
Chief
Quezon Agricultural Research and Experiment Station
Department of Agriculture

JOELL H. LALES, PhD
Assistant Director
Bureau of Agricultural Research,
Department of Agriculture

HOMER D. PANTUA, PhD
President
BioAssets Corporation

3:00 PM



2nd Panel Discussion: Beyond the Horizon: Future Directions in Agricultural Genomics and Innovation

Moderator
KENNETH L. McNALLY, PhD
Visiting Scientist, IRRI &
Visiting Professor
Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences

AH-RAM KIM, PhD
Professor
Handong Global University

YOUNG WHA LEE, PhD
Senior Program Officer
Crop Research and Development
Gates Foundation

BEA LUALHATI G. PUERTO
Supervisor-in-Charge
Agricultural Research Department
Molecular Biology Section
Del Monte Philippines, Inc.

MARIA GENALEEN Q. DIAZ, PhD
R&D Program Director
PGC Agriculture
University of the Philippines Los Baños

3:00 PM
COFFEE BREAK

3rd Panel Discussion: From Bench to Field: The Journey of PhD and MSc Researchers in Agricultural Genomics

Moderator
MERLYN S. MENDIORO, PhD
Professor Emeritus
University of the Philippines Los Baños

THERESE JULIENNE T. MEDINA, MSc
PhD Scholar
Department of Horticultural Science
Kyungpook National University

JORGE MICHAEL D. DOMINGUEZ, MSc
PhD Scholar
Animal Science Department
College of Agriculture
Chungbuk National University

BERNABETH JO T. TENDERO, MSc
PhD Scholar
School of Life Science
Handong Global University

THUMMASORN JESRAEL V. SEHAWANLOP
MSc Scholar
MS in Genetics
University of the Philippines Los Baños

WELJANE LOU P. MANTALABA
MSc Scholar
MS in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
University of the Philippines Los Baños

4:15 PM
**Awarding of
Best Poster Papers**

Raffle

4:45 PM
Closing Message

JAE-SUNG LEE, PhD
Project Leader
KOICA-IRRI-UPLB Project
International Rice Research Institute

NATHANIEL C. BANTAYAN, PhD
Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension
University of the Philippines Los Baños



S E A M E O

SEARCA



University of the Philippines
LOS BAÑOS