



**Asian
Rural
Sociology
Association**



Number 1 December 2014

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From the President

Lutgarda L. Tolentino
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Let me take this opportunity to thank the members and officers of ARSA for installing me as the new President of the association. I would say that, at first, I was hesitant to accept the post as it entails a huge task. On the second thought, however, I believe that this huge task can be done together with the officers and members of ARSA. We share a common goal of promoting sustainable rural development in the Asian rural societies, and therefore, I trust that you will be with me throughout my leadership.

The recently-concluded 5th Conference of ARSA has shown the cohesiveness of the organization, the sustained interest of the members as indicated by the numerous research and development outputs that were presented during the conference, and the need to continue searching for knowledge and conducting applied research that will help improve the practice of rural sociology in Asia.

The publication of this Newsletter is an attempt of ARSA to share the recent developments about the association, and the discourses in rural sociology. This newsletter will keep our association visible, and therefore, we urge everyone to contribute news and feature articles about the Asian rural societies. Aside from the website that we continuously maintain, we believe that the publication of the ARSA Newsletter will serve as a vehicle towards achieving our mission of cultivating the development of the science of rural sociology; extending possible application of results of scientific inquiry to the improvement of the quality of rural life; and exchanging and generating meaningful scientific founding for the rural development of Asia.

Lutgarda L. Tolentino
President, ARSA

Looking Back After Four Years

Koichi IKEGAMI, former President of the ARSA, Kinki University, Japan

I was elected as the President of the ARSA at the Legazpi Conference in 2010. Since then, four years have passed away very quickly. In my acceptance speech at that time, I said, “As the ARSA is young and vigorous, it can grow and develop more. Four years later, I feel my speech was realized more quickly than expected.

First of all, the ARSA organized the 5th Conference in Lao PDR, a country occupying an important position and one of the emerging countries in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (GMS). I think this is very important because the GMS gets larger and larger in terms of its socio-economic and political influence.

In addition, participants of the Conference from various countries exceeded more than 160, the largest among the past conferences. The number of oral presentations reached approximately 120. This number was the largest as well.

Further, The ARSA adopted some new sessions at the 5th Conference. These were not just from members and council’s initiatives but from non-traditional partners like JICA/NGO session. It had also round table discussions. The Conference had two keynote speeches

followed by two special speeches, and held four concurrent sessions.

The ARSA is composed of various countries with different stages of economic development and different culture and history. This fact leads to not only economic disparity but also diversity of mind-sets of people. Therefore, it is difficult for us to manage our association in the same way as the Western culture. However, we are living in the Asian world and we can understand each other as equal human beings. If we can make up the unified sphere of different and diversified worlds, even in terms of an academic body, it will be a good model for creating a co-existence society based on mutual understanding.

This is my basic position and dream. This position comes from my research experience. My major research fields are the Eastern and the Southern Africa. In Africa, people frequently say that friends of friends are friends. Such a phrase could be very familiar to the Asian view. Even after completing my term as president, I would like to be involved in the “growth” of the ARSA on the basis of this belief.

Koichi IKEGAMI
Professor, Kinki University, Japan

Snapshots from the 5th ARSA Conference (Laos)





Editorial Board for the next issue of the Asian Rural Sociology

Currently, editorial work for the forthcoming issue, Vol.5, of the *Asian Rural Sociology* is going on, based on the Guideline for Paper submission to Asian Rural Sociology (shown below).

Editorial Board

Chief Editor:

Koichi Ikegami (Kinki University, Japan)

Editors:

Guoqing Li (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China)

Oakla Cho (Sogang University, South Korea)

Lutgarda L. Tolentino (WorldFish, Philippine Country Office)

Masashi Tachikawa (Ibaraki University, Japan)

Yoshio Kawamura (Ryukoku University, Japan)

Phosy Chanhming (National University of Laos, Lao PDR)

Editorial Assistant:

Leila Landicho (University of the Philippines Los Banos, Philippines)

Guideline for Paper Submission to Asian Rural Sociology

1. The first author of the manuscript shall be a member of the Asian Rural Sociology Association, except in cases otherwise permitted by the editorial board.
2. Manuscripts are limited only to academic papers
3. All manuscripts shall be unpublished manuscripts. No manuscripts already submitted to other journals shall be accepted.
4. Copyright of papers belongs to the Asian Rural Sociology Association.
5. The format of manuscripts should be observed by the contributors and shall be set forth by the Editorial Board.
6. For submission, the manuscript should be submitted online. For online submission, an electronic copy of manuscript prepared in pdf format shall be sent to the editorial board, using the following e-mail address
E-mail address: [TBA]
7. The acceptance of a manuscript for publication shall be determined by the Editorial Board in accordance with the endorsement by the reviewers.

(Supplementary Provisions)

Any amendments to this Guideline shall be made by the Editorial Board, and shall be publicized in the ARSA's websites and newsletters.

This provision shall be enforced as from September 3, 2014.

All letters should be addressed to:

**Editorial Office of Asian Rural Sociology,
The Asian Rural Sociology Association**

E-mail: asiaruralsociology@gmail.com

URL: <http://www.arsa1996.org>

Conference Venue for the next ARSA 2018 was decided

Thanks to the earnest efforts by the Indonesian Representatives, Professor Saleh Ali and Dr. Muhammad Arsyad, we are pleased to announce that **the 6th ARSA Conference in 2018 will be organized by the Hasanuddin University, Indonesia.**

The University Rector, Prof Dwia Aries Tina, officially endorsed and granted permission for holding the Conference at the university.

Professor Saleh Ali and Dr. Muhammad Arsyad (Department of Socio-economics of Agriculture) was appointed to Chair and Co-Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. Further detail will be announced later.

(Secretary: Masashi Tachikawa)

Scientific Activity of ARSA Netters

Some of ARSA members are also actively work for research dissemination. They are functioning as editorial member of international reputation journal, namely *International Journal of Agriculture System (IJAS)* is published by Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) twice a year in June and December. This journal is an international, academic, citation indexed and blind peer reviewed which covers original research articles, short notes and communications, reviews (including book), concepts, commentaries, and letters on a diverse topic related to agricultural system including forestry, fishery/marine, animal sciences and rural policy.

The aim of this journal is to provide a venue for academicians, researchers and practitioners to share/discuss theories, views, research results, on issues related to the science, technology in the development, management and issues in agricultural system particularly in the tropics. However, any other articles related to non-tropical agricultural system are also welcome.

IJAS publishes original, peer-reviewed scientific articles on research related to agricultural systems. Articles published in this journal deal with a broad range of topics in the fields of agriculture, animal science, fishery, forestry, and natural resources. Manuscript submitted to this journal may deal with any aspects of the above fields such as food, animal, and fish production system, land use system, silviculture, forest and natural resource management, crop-livestock integration, socio-economic and policy aspects of agricultural systems, etc. Manuscripts which address interactions among the fields mentioned above which can promote integrated and sustainable production systems are highly encouraged.

Five editorial boards and reviewers of IJAS come from ARSA netters. They are Lutgarda Tolentino, M. Saleh S. Ali, Masashi Tachikawa, Muhammad Arsyad and Yoshio Kawamura.

Please visit: http://pasca.unhas.ac.id/ijas/#editorial_board

Minutes of the General Assembly at the 5th ARSA

Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting
Asian Rural Sociology Association (ARSA)
National University of Laos (NUOL)
3 September 2014

I. Call to order by the President of ARSA

A. Reports and Announcements

- (1) Mid-term Council Meeting (Bangkok, Sep.2013)
- (2) Next Conference
- (3) Financial Support from Japan Foundation

II. Agenda

(1) Amendments of Constitution:

The motion was adopted by applause with condition that the definition of “conference” would be put in place in the Constitution.
Revised Constitution is shown at [Annex].

(2) Editorial Board and guideline to paper submission: Adopted to establish editorial board and create guideline for paper submission.

(3) Financial Report: Reported by Vice President Tolentino, and adopted with the modification of the amount of expense for the website.

(4) Membership fee: The President explained the importance of membership fee to maintain financial stability of the society. The Vice President explained the importance of establishing national association of rural sociology, and the President asked participants of recent development of these societies. No feedback from the participants.

(5) Current/Incoming Council Members: The President proposed new Council Members based on each country's nomination. Thailand- no nomination; Indonesia- no nomination, but Dr. Muhammad Arsyad was referred as possible new member of the council because of hosting next ARSA; Philippines- Dr. Lutgarda L. Tolentino; Laos- Dr. Dexanourath Seneduangdeth was nominated to be a new Council member; Japan- Dr. Motoki Akitsu was nominated to be a new Council member; Korea- Dr. Chul-Kyoo Kim would succeed Dr. Oakla Cho's position in 2016; China- someone would succeed Dr. Guoqing Li's position in 2016; Secretary- Masashi Tachikawa (Japan, non-voting)
On Friday, new council members would have meeting to elect a new president.

(6) Host country of the 6th ARSA conference: Hasanuddin University in Indonesia was proposed to host the 6th ARSA International Conference and this was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly.

(7) Mailing list and website: The President mentioned that mailing list of the ARSA would be updated, and various types of information, such as newsletter, would be distributed using mailing list and website.

III. Adjournment (closed)

Upcoming Events

[2015]

The XXVI European Society for Rural Sociology Congress
Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
August 18-21, 2015
<http://www.esrs2015.eu>
[Deadline for abstract submission]
January 30, 2015

[2016]

IRSA XIV World Congress of Rural Sociology, Toronto, Canada,
August 10-14, 2016
“Sustainable and Just Rural Transitions: Connections and Complexities”
<http://www.irsa-world.org/>
[Deadline for session proposals]
January 15, 2015

Constitution of the ARSA

Name & Mission

The name of the organization is the Asian Rural Sociology Association (ARSA).

The mission of the ARSA is to cultivate the development of the science of rural sociology, to extend the possible application of results of scientific inquiry to the improvement of the quality of rural life, and to exchange and generate meaningful scientific founding for the rural development in Asia. As a non-profit organization, ARSA strives for scientific and educational purposes only.

Structure

The organization consists of General Assembly, and Council.

General Assembly

The general assembly will be held approximately every four years, preferably in conjunction with Asian Rural Sociology Association Conference. The General Assembly may be held by the request of the Council.

Council

The Council will be composed of one representative of each country. The term of elected membership on the council shall not exceed for one conference periods, normally four years. The council shall be convened by the President. The council members will be elected by each country’s members. The council can include non-voting members such as a secretariat to support the President and advisors to run the council smoothly. The main responsibility of the Council is the functioning of the organization. All decisions of the Council will be made by majority of the votes cast.

Membership

Membership of ARSA is open to any individual and organizations wanting to promote the objectives of the organization and paying the relevant fees.

There are four categories of membership:

* Sponsoring institutional or organizational membership is open to regional rural sociology organizations.

* Full membership has rights to participate in the general assembly, to vote, to submit articles, and to receive all newsletters and publication.

* Quasi-membership has same rights except right to vote.

* Student-membership is the same as quasi-membership but only receive newsletters. This membership is only applicable to graduate and university students.

* Membership fee depends on country's economic status and be changeable with approval by council.

First group - Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore

Second group - China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia

Third group - other countries

Voting

All decisions needed for votes shall be taken by a simple majority rule. The place, date, and other administrative decisions for conference and general assembly can be decided by the council for management convenience.

Finance

The Association shall be financed by: member subscriptions, sale of the association publications, donations, and other research projects funds. The Council Committee shall decide reimbursement for any reasonable expenses incurred by any member who carry out work for the Association. Administrative work and management of financing will be mainly carried out by the secretariat with the control of council members.

By-Laws and Regulations

Any issues and subjects needed for detailed rules will be set forth by by-laws and regulations. Those will be decided by the Council.

Supplementary Provision

1. This constitution shall come into effect as from March 27, 2004.

2. Amendment made on September 3, 2014

ARSA Council, 2014-2018

Office	Officer	Organizational Affiliation	Country	E-mail
President	Lutgarda L. Tolentino	WorldFish	Philippine	lutgardatolentino@gmail.com
Vice President	Motoki Akitsu	Kyoto University	Japan	akitsu@kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp
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	Oakla Cho	Sogang University	Korea	oaklaa@gmail.com
	Dexanourath Seneduangdeth	National University of Laos	Laos	dexanourath@yahoo.com
	Surichai Wungaeo	Chulalongkorn University	Thailand	Surichai.W@chula.ac.th
Secretary (non-voting)	Masashi Tachikawa	Ibaraki University	Japan	mtachi@mx.ibaraki.ac.jp

From the Secretary

About the electric Mailing List of the ARSA:

- Currently I am preparing for an e-list where you can post information which could be shared among the members of the ARSA.

Rural Asian Perspective is published twice a year by the Asian Rural Sociology Association (ARSA). For further information, contact:

Secretary: Masashi Tachikawa
Ibaraki University, Japan
mtachi@mx.ibaraki.ac.jp

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- If you have any questions, comments and suggestions, please send an e-mail to the secretary: mtachi@mx.ibaraki.ac.jp.