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## **AGRI CONVERSATIONS**

### **Dialogues on Issues Affecting the Philippine Agricultural Sector**

#### **BACKGROUND**

As a multi-stakeholder platform, we believe in the power of open and honest communication towards building effective and productive relationships and developing appropriate collaborative interventions. While we pursue our efforts to disseminate trends and best practices, we understand the value of constantly seeking updates from those directly implementing agricultural projects and gathering information on issues that hinder the growth of the agricultural sector and delay the possible support to smallholder farmers and fisherfolks.

With this, we are launching the *Agri Conversations*, the Philippine edition of Grow Asia's "Confessionals", which aims to tackle challenges faced by various agricultural industry players to collate feedback and share insights and lessons learned. The outputs of the sessions will be used to produce summary reports which will be shared with various government agencies. Each session will revolve around a specific issue or topic and the confirmed participants could be requested to share proposed subtopics or submit their questions beforehand to facilitate a smoother exchange of information.

Specifically, this activity aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Facilitate an exchange of information on upcoming and/or best practices that will help companies navigate around specific challenges
- Gather insights on the challenges faced by various companies and organizations related to the government's responses to various concerns
- Solicit recommendations on how to improve support mechanisms and how to best respond to various challenges related to agriculture.

These will be used as references to a summary of challenges and recommendations that will be used for a dialogue with concerned government agencies and units.

Following the *Agri Conversations* will be the "Government Dialogues", a member-only event that will provide opportunities for PPSA members to participate in a series of 'Question and Answer' sessions with concerned government officials/agencies based on the outputs from the *Agri Conversations*.

#### **TARGET AUDIENCE**

- Policymakers and Government agencies - Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Committees of Senate and Congress, Bureau of Animal Industry
- Local Government Units
- Private sector - especially livestock companies, ECCP
- NGOs - CAMP, Philippines Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture
- Research and Academe
- Diplomatic community
- Farmer Organizations

## PROGRAM FLOW TEMPLATE

Preliminaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zoom Instructions</li> <li>• Introduction</li> <li>• Welcome Remarks</li> </ul>
Context Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentations from Key Speakers</li> </ul>
Roundtable Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Q&amp;A with the participants (can be in plenary or breakout groups depending on the number of participants)</li> </ul>
Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesis</li> <li>• Closing Remarks</li> </ul>

## PROGRAM FLOW: AGRI CONVERSATIONS ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
9:00 - 9:05 AM	Preliminaries (House Rules)	Host
9:05 - 9:10 AM	Welcome Message	<b>Dr. Mary Ann Sayoc</b> <i>Public Affairs Lead, East-West Seed Co-Chair, Philippines Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture Co-Chair, Agriculture Committee, European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines</i>
9:10 - 9:25 AM	Keynote Messages	<b>Dr. William D. Dar</b> <i>Secretary, Department of Agriculture Co-Chair, Philippines Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture</i>
9:25 - 10:25 AM	Presentations	<b>Government</b> <b>Private Sector</b> <b>LGU</b> <b>Diplomatic Community</b> <b>Farmer Group</b>
10:25 - 10:30 AM	RTD Mechanics	Host
10:30 - 11:30 AM	<b>ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION</b>  This part of the program will aim to validate the challenges faced by the agriculture sector in relation to the state of calamity on ASF, and solicit recommendations on improving government programs, LGU restrictions,	

	<p>and other ASF mitigation and control responses. If time permits, the conversations can also cover possible rehab/post-calamity programs.</p> <p>Specifically, the conversations will respond to the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCOPING: What challenges are being faced related to ASF? What specific ASF protocols or restrictions need to be evaluated and/or changed?</li> <li>• CONCRETE SOLUTIONS: How do we improve our response and mitigation programs? What other recommendations can be provided to resolve the concerns on ASF? How can we bounce back from the concerns on ASF? Are there ways to prevent these types of challenges? What best practices can be adopted and modifications needed to better suit the local context?</li> <li>• WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER: How do we move forward? (Structure, systems and platforms (including human resource), budget, plans)</li> </ul>
11:30 - 11:40 AM	Synthesis of Conversation
11:40 AM - 11:45 NN	Closing Remarks

\*15-minute allowance for possible schedule delays

## ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION MECHANICS

- The RTD will have the following objectives:
  - Seek inputs that will be used to develop a summary of challenges and recommendations around ASF. This report will be the reference for a second run of event (Government Dialogues). Specifically, the RTD will aim to:
    - Discuss and validate the key challenges faced by the agriculture sector in relation to ASF
    - Identify recommendations or strategies (concrete, feasible solutions)

The summary report may follow the format below.

Topic	Roadmap Milestones/ Targets	Strategies/ Commitments across the value chains	Responsibility Center / Institutional Arrangements	Timelines (short term, medium term, or long term)

- The moderator should ensure a consensus around the following:
  - Top 5 challenges that need to be addressed
  - (May choose Top 5) Moving forward strategies/positions/policy recommendations
- Rapporteurs will be assigned to document the items discussed and present (in 5 minutes) the highlights of the discussions.

## GOVERNMENT DIALOGUES

Once the report on the “Agri Conversations” has been finalized and shared with concerned government agencies, another event will be conducted to present the expressed challenges and consolidated recommendations of various stakeholders related to ASF.

This event will be open to PPSA and ECCP members.

### TARGET AUDIENCE

- Policymakers and Government agencies - Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Committees of Senate and Congress, Bureau of Animal Industry
- Local Government Units
- PPSA and ECCP Identified Members

### PROGRAM FLOW TEMPLATE

Preliminaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zoom Instructions</li><li>• Introduction</li><li>• Welcome Remarks</li></ul>
Context Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of Outputs/Highlights of the Agri Conversations</li></ul>
Government Responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Q&amp;A with the government agencies and LGUs based on the Agri Conversations Summary Report</li></ul>
Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Synthesis and Next Steps</li><li>• Closing Remarks</li></ul>

### ABOUT PPSA

The Philippines Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture (PPSA) is a multi-stakeholder partnership platform initiated by Grow Asia, a regional platform for inclusive and sustainable agriculture development in Southeast Asia catalyzed by the World Economic Forum and the ASEAN Secretariat. Grow Asia’s goal is to reach smallholder farmers in ASEAN through its Country Partnerships like the PPSA to improve farmer incomes, farm productivity, and environmental sustainability. PPSA was formally launched by Grow Asia together with the Philippine Department of Agriculture and through the collective efforts of various stakeholders.

Today, PPSA has brought together more than 110 organizations, reaching more than 110,000 smallholders through commodity Working Groups focused on Coconut, Coffee, Corn, Vegetables, and Fisheries as well as cross-cutting/thematic Working Group on Agri-financing and the Learning Alliance.

## **ABOUT THE EUROPEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PHILIPPINES (ECCP)**

The ECCP is a bilateral foreign chamber that promotes European interests in the Philippines and vice versa. With nearly 800 members, the ECCP offers a strong business network that holds great potential in translating to tangible business opportunities. It is a unique organization that offers membership as well as professional business services to members and clients. Over the years, the Chamber has also developed ties with all three branches of government and has been deeply involved in various advocacies to promote a more competitive environment for European-Philippine trade and investments.