

# **PROFESSIONALIZING PHILIPPINE EXTENSION :**

## **The Philippine Extension Network (PEN) Experience**

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# Driving Forces

- Need to belong to a professional organization and create our own identity
- Need to be recognized
- Need to organize and lobby as a group to advance the interests of extension

*Second class citizen no  
more!*

# The Philippine Extension Network

- a national organization of extension professionals and practitioners
- established March 2, 2001 and incorporated with the Security and Exchange Commission (15 charter members)
- Initial support by AusAID through the initiative of the AusAsia-Pacific Extension Network (APEN)

# VISION

Cadre of professionals who are responsible, competent, dedicated, and self-directing in pursuit of extension as science and its practice in the country.

# Sources of membership :

<b>LGUs (78%)</b>	<b>Number of personnel</b>
78 Provinces	6,906
84 Chartered Cities	2,919
1525 Municipalities	15,272
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,117</b>

# Sources of membership :

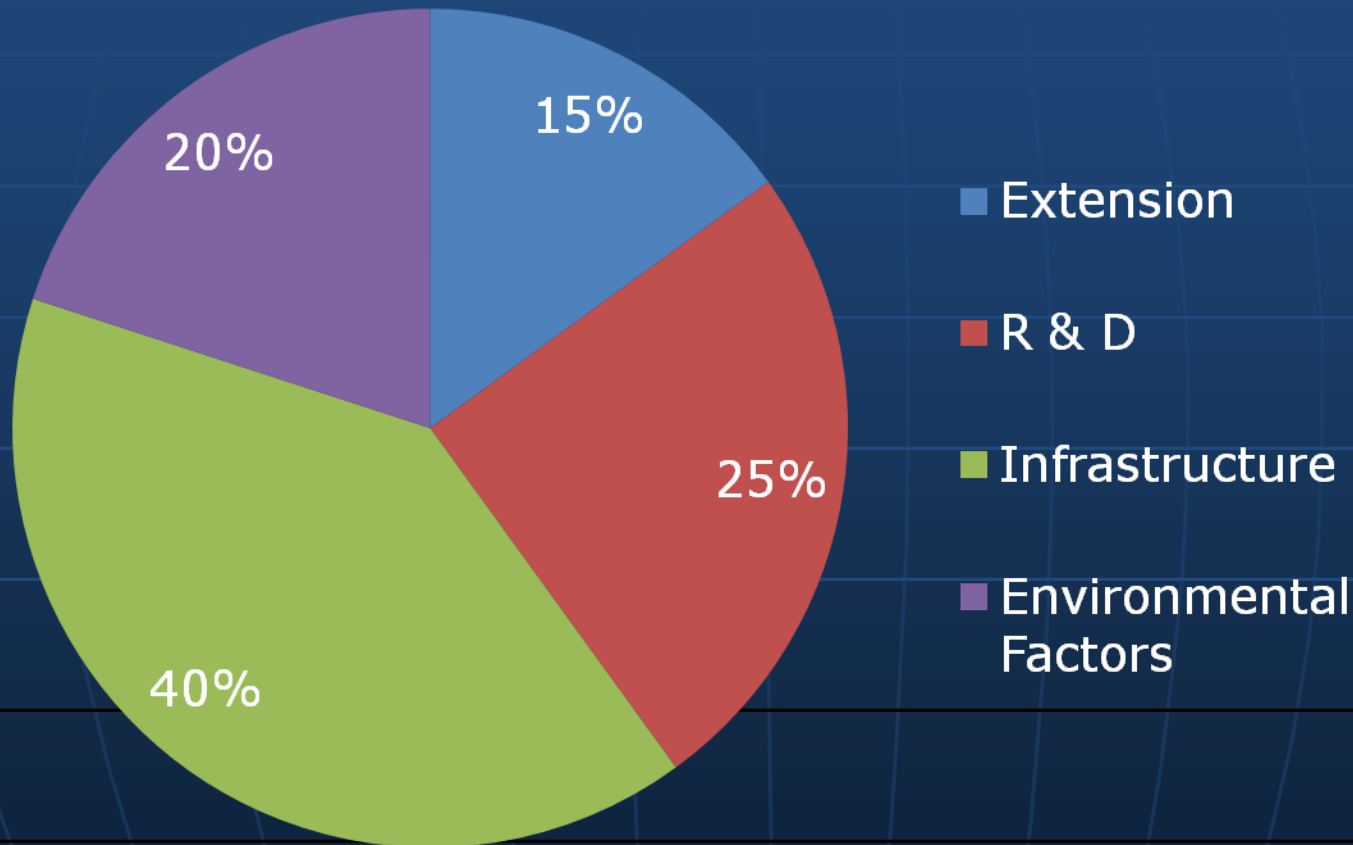
<b>Higher Education Institutions</b>	<b>Number</b>
State colleges and universities	187
Local colleges and universities	79
Private schools	1523
Total	1,789

# Source .....

- From other national government agencies
  - agriculture,
  - fishery,
  - forestry and natural resources,
  - agrarian reform (1,722),
  - science and technology;
- Non-government institutions



# Contributing Factors to Philippine Rice Production Growth



Balisacan, Sebastian et. al., 2006)

# Network Enhancing Activities

- Continuing membership campaign
- Biennial Symposium started in 2004
- Recognition (Awards) of Outstanding Extension Worker, Researcher, Extension Project, and Local Chief Executive (national prestige to the Association)
- Information exchange (yahoo group)
- Extension advocacy & policy development
- Research, training and development support

# Influencing Direction of Philippine Extension

- Crafting the National Agriculture and Fishery Extension Agenda (required under AFMA 1997)
- Crafting the National Extension Bill (for deliberation under joint bicameral meeting of the House of Representatives and Senate)
- Enjoys the privilege as one of the professional organizations being invited to congress on deliberation of bills related to agriculture and extension.

# Influence on professionalizing....

- PEN is one of the seven (7) constituent professional organizations represented in the Governing Board of the Philippine Association of Agriculturists
- Professional Association of Agriculturists (PAA) is an association of registered agriculturists of 13, 442 members who had passed the licensure examination required of all government workers in agriculture including extension workers under Republic Act 8435 (Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Act of 1997)

# Problems and Solutions

<b>Slow response during recruitment</b>	<b>Subsidized 50% of membership fees of devolved extension workers</b>
<b>Logistics after AUSAID seed money</b>	<p><b>Additional funds generated through solicitation from donors/sponsors and collection from registration fees during the biennial conference.</b></p> <p><b>Linked with strategic institutions with on-going extension program initiatives with LGUs (DA, DOST, DENR, DAR, NGOs).</b></p> <p><b>CHED, DA, DOST, DENR, DAR administrative orders allowed charging to government funds conference fees.</b></p> <p><b>Facilitated attendance to biennial conference where membership dues and other fees are integrated in the registration fee.; a strategy that enhances members' recruitment</b></p>

**Thanks,  
MABUHAY!!!**