

WELCOME TO LOS BAÑOS!

Welcome to the RIHN-LakeHEAD COMMUNITY FORUM 2013 in Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.

You will be joined by key stakeholders of Laguna de Bay such as farmers, fishermen, other community members, officials from local government units including barangay leaders, and representatives from non-government organizations, FARMC, LLDA, and other sectors. Likewise, foreign and local scientists as well as researchers from the Lake HEAD team will share their expertise and experiences on lake watershed management and on the management of food and health risks. The Community Forum will be held on November 7-8, 2013 and will feature paper and poster presentations, and workshops with sectoral representatives, experts, and researchers.

“Environmental, economic, and social well-being for today and tomorrow”



RIHN-LakeHEAD COMMUNITY FORUM 2013
THEME: Yaman ng Lawa: Adaptive Co-Management for Sustainable Use of the Wealth of Laguna Lake

The Community Forum which is on its second year, will take off from where the Community Forum of 2012 has culminated.

In 2012, the LakeHEAD Project Team launched the YAMAN ng Lawa as an active adaptive co-management approach for the sustainable management and utilization of lake resources. It was designed as a platform for Laguna de Bay stakeholders to identify and provide solutions to the major issues confronting the Lake. Based on the understanding that environmental protection/conservation and development can co-exist, this social experiment brings together different stakeholders to take action for the sustainable development and use of lake resources. It gives importance to three key elements: (1) the participation of the community throughout the entire process, especially on lake management, (2) the value given to both traditional or local knowledge and modern technologies in the search for solutions to the problems of the lake, and (3) the use of active adaptive co-management as the approach for ensuring the sustainable utilization of Lake resources.

This year's Forum aims to engage communities, scientific institutions, environmental experts, and practitioners in the discussion of an adaptive co-management system to address the major issues related to waste management, eco-restoration, and the community-based management of ecologically-related diseases. These issues will be tackled in three concurrent sessions.

Concurrent Sessions:

1. Adaptive Waste Co-Management Systems

This session will highlight village participation in addressing the major issue of household waste management in the communities. The discussions will cover the on-site and off-site effects of current waste management practices as well as the proposals of the communities to address these issues.

2. Adaptive Co-management of Eco-restoration for Better Lake Water Quality and Fishery Resources

This session will deal with issues related to traditional knowledge-based restoration of fish and habitat in lake sanctuary. The discussions will provide a better understanding of the traditional knowledge and survival practices of fisher folks to address the decline in fish catch and seasonal fish quality in Laguna de Bay.

3. Community-based Approaches in the Management of Ecologically-related Diseases

This session will tackle the issues related to environmental degradation and the consequent threat of ecologically-related diseases. It will stress the strategies and roles of local government units and communities in mitigating food and health risks.

Note for Paper Presentors

We are requesting the paper presenters to submit an abstract of their papers by September 30 and the full papers by October 18, 2013. The abstracts will describe the presentation's purpose, methods, and conclusions. Please limit the length of the abstract to **250** words and full papers to 3000 to 5000 words. Please make sure to include keywords. By submitting an abstract, you are granting the LakeHEAD permission to publish it in the abstract compilation and to disseminate it electronically.

Forum Venue

The Forum will take place at the BP Makiling International Jamboree, Los Baños, Laguna. Accommodation will be offered in the same venue. Foreign delegates may check-in a day before the event.

Transportation (attach map)

The transport of participants from the Los Baños Municipal Hall or from UPLB Campus to the venue will be arranged by request. Please coordinate with the Secretariat to avail of this service.

For more information about the RIHN-LakeHEAD Community Forum 2013, please contact the Secretariat at ynlsecretariat@gmail.com or at (049) 536-5816 (telefax).