

Category	: International Rice Research Conference
Select Theme	: Social inclusion and gender equality
Endorsement email	:
Keyword 1	: Scaling up and out
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Keyword 3	: Capacity development and education
Title of Entry	: Rice Crop Manager in the Philippines: Achieving Scale and Sustainability through government partnership
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Affiliation presenting author	: International Rice Research Institute
Affiliation 1	:
Affiliation 2	:
Select only one type of presentation	: 15 minute oral presentation
Abstract	<p>: Rice Crop Manager (RCM) is a web-based decision support tool that provides farmers with personalized crop and nutrient management recommendations that match their rice-growing conditions and needs. RCM is based on site-specific nutrient management (SSNM), as developed and refined from the late 1990s at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). SSNM has proven to increase the effectiveness of fertilizer use and increase net incomes in rice farming across both the Philippines, India and Bangladesh. Launched in the Philippines in 2013, IRRI partners with the Philippine Department of Agriculture, Bureau for Agricultural Research (DA-BAR) and Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) as well as the Philippines Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) on both the research and dissemination components of this work. In 2016, RCM was further enhanced into an advisory service that includes farmer and field registration, short-messaging service, and farm monitoring to facilitate farm record-keeping and use of historical practices and observations to improve future crop management. By December 2017, approximately 1.4 million one-page printed recommendations have been provided to farmers. RCM recommendations are provided to farmers through a one-page print-out and a short messaging service (SMS) to provide and guide crop management. It enables extension workers to use a computer or smart phone to provide farmers with crop management recommendations matching their field conditions. Following successful research and dissemination partnership, IRRI and the DA, Philippines jointly agreed to transition ownership of the RCM platform to the government by 2021. Currently in the middle of this transition phase, this presentation will detail the development of the RCM platform and the pathway to sustainability and scale through government ownership. It will highlight the challenges, successes and overall goals of this program as lessons learned for other similar research to development programs. As national institutions grow in strength and donor funding continues to focus on building the capacity of these institutions, the role that IRRI and other research institutions can play in transitioning these programs to state entities becomes increasingly important.</p>

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