



ASEAN IPM KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

STATUS REPORT

As of 31 December 2006

BACKGROUND

The ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network or ASEAN IPM is a Philippine initiative for regional cooperation in sustainable development within the ASEAN region. The initiative was approved during the 19th meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) held at Bangkok, Thailand in September 1997.

The Network aimed to help governments and non-government organizations improve the effectiveness of program implementation by making knowledge sharing easy among national IPM programs in the ASEAN. To do this, ASEAN IPM established an electronic, Internet-like Knowledge Management Facility that ensures IPM knowledge to be available at the point of need by program implementers and policy-makers.

ASEAN IPM is put into operation in three sub-phases. Beginning 1998, Sub-Phase I undertook the establishment and operation of the Regional Center in the Philippines as well as the Country Hubs in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. As a country initiative, the Philippine Government provided initial funds for the operation of the Network with counterpart support commitments from member-countries in terms of provision for IT facilities and technical manpower.

In 2003, the Philippines experienced a transitory setback towards the implementation of Sub-Phases II and III due to the Network's inability to secure supplemental contributions and donors. Sub-Phase II involves the establishment and operation of Country Hubs in Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Singapore. Sub-Phase III covers the Network's full implementation, through continuous building of IPM knowledge bases and knowledge sharing activities, across all the ASEAN member-countries.

However, the Philippine Government renewed its initiative on ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network, specifically the operation of Sub-Phases II and III, with the end in view of promoting sustainable agriculture in ASEAN. This renewed initiative was reported to and confirmed by the 27th SOM-AMAF Meeting held in September 2005 at Tagaytay City, Philippines.

STATUS OF ASEAN IPM

The ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network is tasked with three main functions, namely: (1) knowledge management, (2) program development support, and (3) program clientele services. *Knowledge management* is the consolidation and transformation of available IPM information to create appropriate knowledge capital for use by national IPM programs in the region. *Program development support* involves the packaging of knowledge capital for use in major IPM components such as training, program management, policy and advocacy, and project evaluation. *Program clientele services* concern the assistance provided by the Network with regard to the access and use of stored IPM information and knowledge databases.

Knowledge Management Activities:

Enhancing the ASEAN IPM Regional Center Information and Knowledge Databases

1. Upgrading of the Center's IT Hardware, Software, and Networking Facilities

The ASEAN IPM Regional Center has re-configured its electronic network in Wide Area Network (WAN) within the ASEAN region taking advantage of the Internet as the Network's backbone. Since May 2006, the Network is hooked up to an upgraded Server with Fedora Core 3 or Windows Server 2003 Operating System at the Philippine Department of Agriculture's Information Technology Center for Agriculture and Forestry (DA-ITCAF). The server uses the latest versions (6.5 or 7.0) of Lotus Domino Enterprise Server software to provide electronic mail services, database and web application services, electronic discussions, and access control.

Likewise, the IT hardware of ASEAN IPM Regional Center at the National Agribusiness Corporation (NABCOR) has been upgraded in March 2006 to accommodate the revitalized build-up of information and knowledge databases and networking activities. The Center acquired 5 new units of IBM Thinkcenter A51 (Intel Pentium4 630 3.0 GHZ with HT Technology, 2X256 MB Memory, 80 GB HDD, CDRW Multi-burner Combo Drive, 3.5 FDD, Win XP Pro with 15" LCD TFT Monitor) as terminals for storage and efficient data generation and processing. These upgrades meet the minimum requirements for Lotus Domino 7.0 Server software. The set-ups of the ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network Configuration and ASEAN IPM Regional Center's Knowledge Management Facility are shown in *Figures 1* and *2*, respectively.

To enhance hard copies accumulation, systematic filling, and retrieval of encoded documents, the following hardware were likewise acquired by the ASEAN IPM Regional Center for its Physical Library, namely: (a) two [2] new laser printers (e.g., HP Laser Jet 1022n and Cannon Image Class MF3112), and (b) seven [7] units of multi-decked steel filling cabinets.

2. *Re-activating, Redesigning, and Updating the ASEAN IPM Web Page*

The ASEAN IPM Web Page, shown in *Figure 3*, has been re-activated in May 2006 under a new domain name: www.asean-ipm.da.gov.ph. It is now maintained by DA-ITCAF. The Regional Center at NABCOR is connected to DA-ITCAF through a direct leased line or Virtual Private Network (VPN). The Web Page contains two types of information: (1) general information on the ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network, which can be accessed by the general public; and (2) proprietary information on the ASEAN IPM Information and Knowledge Databases, which can be accessed only by the Country Hubs.

In July 2006, the Web Page format and design was simplified in order to accelerate uploading time, hence making it more accessible to the Country Hubs and the general public. Starting September 2006, additional features were incorporated into the web page and its technical contents were regularly updated to keep various stakeholders abreast on latest development as regards IPM and related concerns within the region.

Through the Web Page, the Country Hubs can now participate in electronic mailboxes to send and receive e-mail messages. The Country Hubs can also link with the ASEAN IPM index page to showcase their latest IPM activities. These services, however, will require password authentication to be granted access. Inquiries about the Network can also be made through the Web Page by filling up a feedback form.

3. *Building up of the ASEAN IPM Information and Knowledge Databases Contents*

When the Network momentarily ceased operation in October 2003, about 6,500 documents have already been gathered and encoded in the ASEAN IPM Regional Center's Information Database consistent with set standards. Out of these, over 2,800 have been screened, reviewed, synthesized, and encoded into the Knowledge Database. By the end of December 2006, over 7,500 documents have been indexed into the Information Database, of which more than 3,500 documents have been synthesized and stored into the Knowledge Database, ready for validation by an ASEAN IPM Panel of Experts. About eighty percent (80%) of the knowledge database contents are concerns related to IPM technology development while the remaining twenty percent (20%)

are on training methodology and curriculum development, program management and implementation, policy development and advocacy, as well as on project preparation and evaluation.

4. *Development of the ASEAN IPM Thesaurus and Manual of ASEAN IPM Network Operating Guidelines and Knowledge Management Policies*

The *ASEAN IPM Thesaurus and Manual of ASEAN IPM Network Operating Guidelines and Knowledge Management Policies* were reviewed, revised, and ratified by the participants, from nine (9) Country Hubs (except Singapore), to the ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop held on 30 May to 01 June 2006 at Cebu City, Philippines. The thesaurus, which contains over 1,500 knowledge descriptors, has been devised and regularly updated to facilitate the classification of documents for the information databases within the network. On the other hand, the network operating guidelines and knowledge management policies were developed to ensure the consistency, integrity, quality, relevance, and appropriateness of the Network's IPM information and knowledge databases.

Program Development Support Activities:

1. *Training Management and Implementation*

Since its re-location from SEARCA to NABCOR in January 2006, the ASEAN IPM Regional Center renewed its collaboration with the Philippine National IPM Program (KASAKALIKASAN) in training management and implementation. Project Specialists of the Center provided technical assistance to KASAKALIKASAN and University of Southern Mindanao (USM) in planning, curriculum design, and actual implementation of a *Season-long Corn Specialist Training (CST) Course on Integrated Production and Pest Management (IPPM)* from 17 April to 18 August 2006 at Alabel, Sarangani.

A key feature of the re-designed CST-IPPM curriculum is the institutionalization of the village-type *Trichogramma* Mass-rearing Facility (TMF) set-ups for effective and environment-friendly corn borer and earworm management in the CST and FFS learning fields, based on recent Philippine experiences in a similar course for cotton. Among others, relevant topics on good agricultural practices (GAPs) for corn and corn-based production system are also articulated, such as: (a) use of insect pathogens [*nuclear polyhedrosis virus* or NPV, *Metarrhizium* sp., and *Beauveria* sp.] as an alternative non-chemical insect pest management strategy; (b) pre- and post-harvest prevention of *Aflatoxin* contamination; (c) use of bio-fertilizers

[*Trichoderma* sp., *Mycorrhiza* sp., Bio-N, Vermi-compost, etc.]; (d) participatory farmer breeding; (e) management of corn planthoppers [waya-way]; (f) crop-livestock integration; and (g) product transformation. A critiquing on the use of genetically modified organisms (GMO) is likewise programmed, particularly on concerns with regard to insect refuge management (IRM) in *Bt* corn and use of *Bt* corn versus non-*Bt* corn hybrids.

Likewise, ASEAN IPM Project Specialists provided technical assistance to KASAKALIKASAN in management of technical briefings and training courses to abate, contain, eradicate, or manage two (2) very serious invasive pests in the Philippines, namely:

- (a) Coconut leaf beetle [*Brontispa longissima*] or CLB, which is believed to be endemic to Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands. In this regard, a 'Mindanao-wide Technical Briefing to Abate CLB Infestation' was undertaken on 13-15 September 2006 in Malaybalay, Bukidnon, Philippines. On the other hand, two (2) one-week intensive 'Reinforcement Training Courses for CLB Management' were undertaken on 20-24 November 2006 and 27 November-01 December 2006 for participants from infested and threatened Luzon and Visayas regions.
- (b) Corn planthopper [*Stenocranus pacificus*] or CPH, which was first recorded from Fiji, Micronesia, and Vietnam. A two (2) one-week intensive 'Reinforcement Training Courses for CPH Management' were conducted on 16-20 and 23-27 October 2006 for participants from infested and threatened Luzon regions.

In collaboration with various government (GO) and non-government (NGO) organizations as well as with international and national research, development, and extension (RD&E) organizations, ASEAN IPM provides technical expertise and support in capacity and capability building for local IPM program implementations, particularly in sugarcane and processing tomato. In this regards, two activities are on-going:

- (a) A season-long 'Training of Facilitators [TOF] Course and five [5] Farmer Field Schools [FFSs] for Integrated Production and Pest Management in Sugarcane-based Production System' are being pilot tested, using the experiences on other crops by many national IPM programs of ASEAN Country Hubs, in partnership with Task Force Mapalad [an NGO], KASAKALIKASAN, and concerned local government units [LGU] in five [5] major sugarcane growing municipalities of Negros Occidental from 06 November 2006 to 07 November 2007; and

- (b) A season-long 'TOF-FFS Course on Integrated Production and Pest Management in Processing Tomato' is being implemented in cooperation with Northern Food Corporation or NFC [a government-owned corporation], UPLB's National Crop Protection Center [NCPC], U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] Vegetable IPM Program for Asia, KASAKALIKASAN, and concerned LGUs in Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur. Consisting of two phases, Phase I involved the conduct of a ten-day intensive 'Reinforcement Training Course [RTC] for Farmer Field School Facilitators of Integrated Production and Pest Management in Processing Tomato' on 08-19 December 2006. Phase II consisted of season-long 'Farmer Field Schools [FFSs] for Integrated Production and Pest Management in Processing Tomato', which are being facilitated by the RTC participants from 29 December 2006 to 27 April 2007 in seven [7] and four [4] municipalities of Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur, respectively, by the same collaborating agencies.

2. Curriculum Development Activities

The ASEAN IPM Regional Center continues to develop, compile, co-edit, and/or co-publish monographs, training manuals, handbooks, and field guides in collaboration with various stakeholders to enhance the implementation of national IPM programs in ASEAN region.

To date, the following publications are continually distributed, field-validated, and/or used as reference materials in various training forums within the ASEAN region:

- (a) *Empowering Farmers: The Philippine National Integrated Pest Management Program* (1st and 2nd Editions). The monograph highlights successes of KASAKALIKASAN as a human resource development program of the Philippine Department of Agriculture in collaboration with local government units and non-government organizations. Edited by ASEAN IPM Project Specialists, the monograph is used as a reference material for program management by IPM stakeholders in the Philippines and other ASEAN member-countries.
- (b) *Handbook on Non-formal Education and Team Building Exercises for IPM*. The handbook is used as guide by training facilitators in season-long IPM Training of Specialists (TOS) and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) courses by

the Philippine and other ASEAN National IPM Programs. The book is co-published by ASEAN IPM and the Philippine National IPM Program.

- (c) *Field Guide of Discovery-based Exercises for Mango IPM*. The field guide is designed for use of FFS in Mango IPM. The book is co-published by ASEAN IPM and the Philippine and Thailand National IPM Programs. The book is used as guide by training facilitators in season-long TOT and FFS courses for IPM in mango by the Philippine and other ASEAN National IPM Programs.

- (d) *Field Guide of Discovery-based Exercises for Corn Production*. The book is a compilation of supplemental discovery-based exercises used as facilitators' guide by the Philippine and other ASEAN National IPM Programs, since its publication in 2001 to date, for FFS covering topics on corn production including IPM, integrated soil management (ISM), and post harvest management (PHM). The publication is a joint collaboration with the National Corn (Ginintuang Masaganang Ani) and IPM (KASAKALIKASAN) Programs of the Philippine Department of Agriculture. Additional copies were distributed to Country Hub participants of the ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop held on 30 May to 01 June 2006 at Cebu City, Philippines.

- (e) *Field Guide of Discovery-based Exercises for Vegetable IPM Volume II*. The book is a compilation of supplemental discovery-based exercises used as facilitators' guide by the Philippine and other ASEAN National IPM Programs for FFS covering topics on crop production and IPM in crucifers, legumes, cucurbits, and solanaceous vegetables. The publication is a collaborative undertaking with the Philippine National IPM Program and the Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resources Management (CHARM) Project, an undertaking funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB).

- (f) *Handbook on Participatory Technology Development Exercises for Vegetable IPM*. The handbook is used as training facilitators' guide by the Philippine and other ASEAN National IPM Programs for vegetable farmers conducting participatory technology development (PTD) or participatory action research (PAR) activities. The publication is also a joint collaboration with the Philippine National IPM Program and the ADB-funded CHARM Project. Additional copies were distributed to

Country Hub participants of the ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop held on 30 May to 01 June 2006 at Cebu City, Philippines.

Since January 2006, ASEAN IPM Regional Center resumed activities for the completion and publication of several training manuals, handbooks, and field guides:

- (a) *Manual of Integrated Production and Pest Management for Processing Tomatoes*. The manual is based on the proceedings of the Workshop on Integrated Production and Pest Management for Processing Tomatoes held at Laoag City, Philippines in July 2005. The book, scheduled for publication on the first quarter of CY 2007, highlights best practices in processing tomato production in the Philippines, Southeast Asia, and other processing tomato producing countries. The publication is a collaborative endeavor of ASEAN IPM, Philippine National IPM Program, University of the Philippines Los Baños' National Crop Protection Center (UPLB-NCPC), Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), FAO Vegetable IPM Programme for Asia, and Campbell Foods Corporation of U.S.A.
- (b) *Field Guide of Discovery-based Exercises for Invasive and Special Pest Problems*. The field guide, scheduled for publication on the second quarter of CY 2007, is designed for use by training facilitators in the conduct of FFS dealing with specific pest problems, such as: Malayan rice black bug and golden apple snail in rice; coconut leaf beetle and mealy bug in coconut; and corn leafhopper, armyworm/cutworm, migratory locust, and rodents in corn and many other crops. The book is a collaborative activity of ASEAN IPM, Philippine National IPM Program, UPLB-NCPC, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Global IPM Facility, and Asia-Pacific Coconut Community (APCC).
- (c) *Handbook of Discovery-based Exercises for Farmer Field Schools on Integrated Soil Management*. The handbook is developed for use by FFS on Integrated Soil Management (ISM). The FAO Farmer-centered Agricultural Resources Management Programme, in collaboration ASEAN IPM and the Philippine National IPM Program validated the handbook as a follow-up activity for farmer-graduates of rice IPM Farmer Field Schools in the Philippines and other ASEAN member-countries.

Program Clientele Activities:

1. Conduct of ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop

In preparation for Sub-Phases II and III implementation, the ASEAN IPM Regional Center conducted a three-day ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop on 30 May to 01 June 2006 at Cebu City, Philippines (Workshop output is reported in a separate document). The Workshop followed-up and assessed the information and knowledge management activities of Sub-Phase I Country Hubs (e.g., Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam) and developed annual plans and programs of the Regional Center and the Country Hubs, including Sub-Phase II Country Hubs (e.g., Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Singapore). Specifically, the three-day gathering addressed the following concerns:

- a. Review of ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network's thrust, mission, and knowledge management strategies and status of Sub-Phases I and II Country Hub National IPM Programs;
- b. Updating on ASEAN IPM standard networking configuration and knowledge management electronic facility;
- c. Review of ASEAN IPM Regional Center knowledge management activities (information and knowledge databases as well as knowledge utilization);
- d. Updating of ASEAN IPM Network Operating Guidelines and Knowledge Management Policies and ASEAN IPM Thesaurus (use of descriptors and non-descriptors for indexing and retrieving documents);
- e. Assessment of Sub-Phases I and II Country Hub National IPM Programs' products, services, networking facilities as well as their information and knowledge management activities;
- f. Refocusing the general fields of concerns for knowledge sharing activities and identification of specific knowledge sharing activities between ASEAN IPM Regional Center and the Country Hubs for mid 2006 to CY 2007; and
- g. Identification of Sub-Phases I and II Country Hub locations, personnel, facilities, and their required technical assistance.

The Workshop was participated by twenty-four (24) middle-level management and technical officers from the ASEAN IPM Regional Center (Project Director and Project Specialists) and the Country Hubs (National IPM Coordinators and IT Specialists) of Sub-Phases I (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam) and II (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar) countries (See *Annex A*).

FUTURE PLAN OF ACTIVITIES

1. Continuous building of the ASEAN IPM Information and Knowledge Databases

With the acquisition of newer versions of IT hardware and software for knowledge networking activities, both at DA-ITCAF and NABCOR, the ASEAN IPM Regional Center will be able to continue acquiring new materials more vigorously on IPM and related concerns from local and international organizations or institutions for its databases. It will likewise accelerate screening, reviewing, synthesizing, and encoding activities for selected materials into the Network's Knowledge Database. With the current technical staff level, the Regional Center is projected to gather and encode about 1,500 new documents to its Information Database as well as screen, review, synthesize, and encode over 500 of these new documents into its Knowledge Database for CY 2007.

More importantly, as a result of the ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop conducted on 30 May to 01 June 2006 at Cebu City, Philippines, the Country Hub participants have committed to facilitate setting up of their own IT facilities and thus, contribute in the knowledge management activities of the ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network by starting to build-up their own information and knowledge databases. In this regard, every Country Hub will be able to gather and encode at least 100 locally-sourced documents containing best IPM practices into their respective Information Databases. Modestly, some 1,000 new documents will be added into the ASEAN IPM Regional Center Information Database during CY 2007 for use by respective ASEAN IPM Country Hubs. However, due to language barrier and inadequate technical staff, each Country Hub may not be able yet to screen, review, synthesize, and encode these documents into their respective Knowledge Databases during the same year.

2. *Knowledge Utilization Activities*

Beginning on the first quarter of CY 2007, the ASEAN IPM Regional Center will renew its stalled collaboration with the National IPM Program of Cambodia in the compilation and co-publication of a handbook on IPM best experiences and practices from National IPM Programs of ASEAN member-countries. Initially, best practices on addressing HIV/AIDS problem, rice-fish culture, livestock production, maternal care, child nutrition and participatory school children education using the FFS approach from the Cambodian, Vietnamese and the Philippine National IPM Programs will be collected for the handbook.

The Center will also initiate collaborative endeavor with National IPM Programs in the ASEAN region (e.g., Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam) to compile, co-edit, and co-publish a manual of their best experiences as regards their management of coconut leaf beetle (*Brontispa longissima*) infestation, which is an emerging pest problem of coconut and other palm species in the ASEAN and Asia-Pacific regions.

3. *Systems Upgrade of ASEAN IPM Country Hubs*

Concomitant with systems upgrading undertaken at the Regional Center, parallel systems upgrading of Country Hubs' networking facilities will be performed as soon as these Hubs have situated appropriate personnel and upgraded their IT hardware, a common consensus among the participants during the ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop held on 30 May to 01 June 2006 at Cebu City, Philippines. The Lotus Domino Application Server software will be updated from version 5.0.9a to version 6.0 or 7.0 in Sub-Phase I Country Hubs and installed with version 6.0 or 7.0 in Sub-Phase II Country Hubs by the Regional Center. Correspondingly, Country Hubs' Lotus Notes Client application programs will be likewise updated from version 5.0.9a to version 6.0 or 7.0 or installed with version 6.0 or 7.0, as the case maybe.

4. *On-site Follow-up of Information and Knowledge Management Activities of Sub-Phases I and II Country Hubs*

Follow-up activities of Sub-Phases I and II Country Hubs will be undertaken to: (a) reset-up or set-up their knowledge management facility; (b) re-launch

or initiate as well as enhance their electronic operations; and (c) strengthen their information and knowledge management operations. Beginning on the second quarter of CY 2007, teams consisting of IT and technical specialists from the Regional Center will conduct on-site visit of Sub-Phases I and II Country Hubs and train Country Hub personnel on knowledge management requisites as well as on information and knowledge management operations. In-country training expenses will be provided by the Country Hubs. The Regional Center will shoulder all other travel-related expenses of its IT and technical training staff.

5. *Conduct of the ASEAN IPM Panel of Technical Experts Workshop*

The ASEAN IPM Regional Center plans to hold the Panel of Experts Workshop at Bangkok, Thailand in the last quarter of CY 2007, subject to availability of funds. The Panel is envisioned to review and evaluate the content and quality of the Network's information and knowledge databases. The Workshop will identify the roles and responsibilities of the Technical Panel of Experts and formulate a clearing process for adoption.

FIGURE 1. ASEAN IPM KNOWLEDGE NETWORK CONFIGURATION

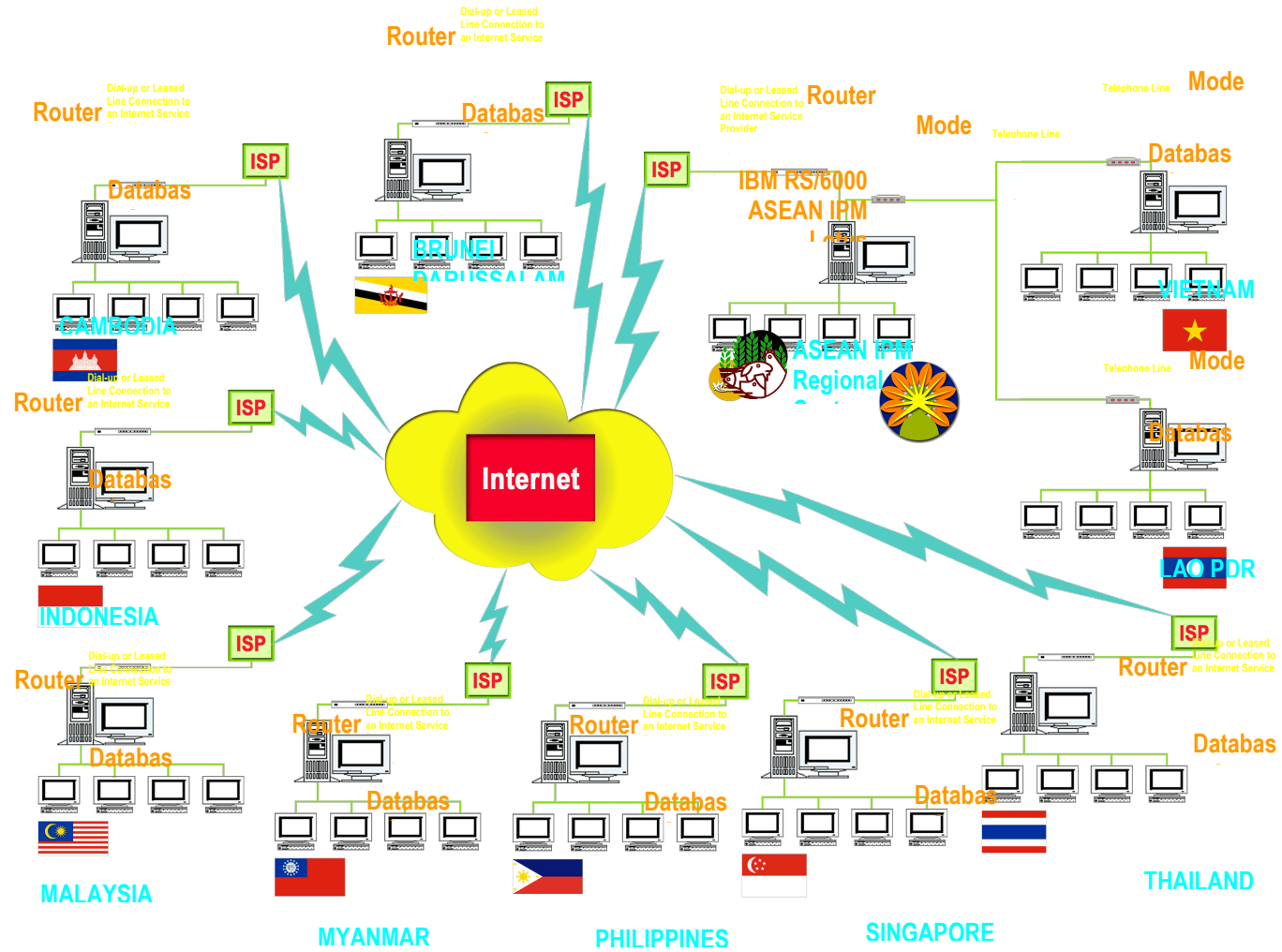


FIGURE 2. ASEAN IPM KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

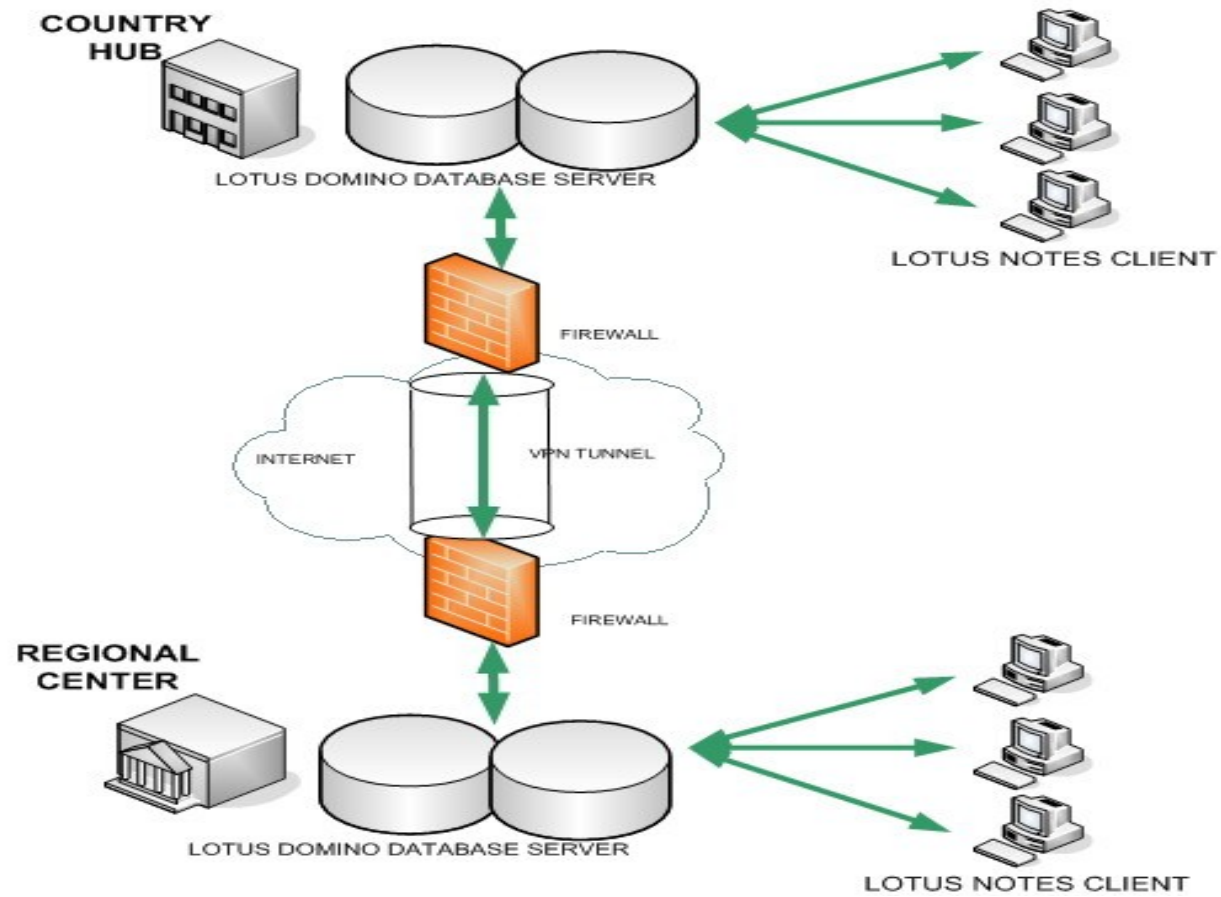


FIGURE 3. ASEAN IPM KNOWLEDGE NETWORK WEB PAGE



**ANNEX A. LIST OF WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS, ASEAN IPM REGIONAL
MANAGEMENT & TECHNICAL WORKSHOP, 30 MAY-01 JUNE 2006,
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