

## PROLINNOVA PHILIPPINES 3RD QUARTER UPDATE

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2023, PROLINNOVA PHILIPPINES CONTINUED ITS EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS AND EMPOWER FARMERS. BELOW ARE NOTABLE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (IIRR) IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROLINNOVA APPROACH. MOVING FORWARD, THE PROLINNOVA-PHILIPPINES COUNTRY PLATFORM AIMS TO REBUILD OR STRENGTHEN OUR PARTNERSHIPS WHILE CONTINUING TO SHARE IIRR'S PARTICIPATORY INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT (PID) RELATED WORK.

### 1. IIRR strengthens partnership with the DA ATI

Our training program focuses on empowering individuals and communities, addressing emerging needs such as *Regenerative Agriculture*, *Gender Equality*, *Food Security*, *Aquaculture*, and *Participatory Action Research*. In the 1980s, we partnered with international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to further the RR approach and capabilities envisioned by our founder, Y.C. James Yen.

### 2. Empowering Women Farmers Through Asexual Propagation Training: Joana Osita's Story

In line with the PID concept and to prepare farmers for potential market opportunities, IIRR-ClimBeR project conducted a training session on asexual propagation and nursery management for 22 women farmers in Ivisan, Capiz last July 17-18, 2023. One of the outcomes of the training is the case of Joana Osita.

*Joana Osita, a 45-year-old farmer from Malocloc Sur, shared that she can now apply the newfound knowledge and skills learned from the training at home, given the abundance of fruit trees in their area (some of which are male). Wasting no time to apply her learnings, Joana successfully performed cleft grafting on their plants within just two days. As a housewife, she now has a new hobby and a potential source of additional income. Joana plans to continue building her skills in asexual propagation, particularly in cleft grafting, inarching, and budding. Joana recognized the potential profitability of this endeavor since she has many mother plants of various fruit tree types. She expressed her gratitude for IIRR for the training and aspires to eventually start her own nursery to sell grafted plants to fellow farmers and gardeners. (Written by Harlyn Balbona; Edited by Marie Cabriole)*