The Ilocos Agriculture, Aquatic, and Resources Research and Development Consortium (ILAARRDEC) was established in December 21, 1979 when the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research or PCARR and the Mariano Marcos State University or MMSU and two more agencies signed a memorandum of agreement creating the Ilocos Agricultural Research Center or ILARC. With MMSU as the base agency, the other three original members the Cotton Research and Development Institute or CRDI now the Philippine Fiber Industry Authority or PhilFIDA, Philippine Tobacco Research and Training Center or PTRTC, now the National Tobacco Administration; the PCARR now the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development or PCARRD.

The then ILARC gradually metamorphosed into the Ilocos Agriculture and Resources Research Center or ILARRC in 1985 and finally emerged as the Ilocos Agriculture and Resources Research and Development Consortium in 1988.

Through the years, the consortium is backed-up by its 17 strong member agencies. It has five working groups with different but interrelated functions:

1. **Regional Research and Development Coordinating Council or RRDC** - the policy making body of the consortium;
2. **Regional Research and Development Group or RRDG** - the technical arm of the consortium and is responsible in all the research activities of the CMAs;
3. **Regional Techno-Transfer Group or RTTG** - the communication and extension arm and is responsible in the production and development of IEC materials and dissemination of generated and mature technologies;
4. **Regional Business Development Group or RBDG** - in-charge of the business affairs concerns in the promotion and utilization of technologies generated by the CMAs in the region;
5. **Knowledge Management Group or KMG** - maintains the in-house information system that supports the function of the R&D management and the information needs of the stakeholders.

**SERVICES AND MAJOR PROGRAMS**

ILAARRDEC provides consultancy services, technical assistance, trainings and other capability development activities which are anchored on the strong spirit of Ugnayan. These services are further enhanced by the five major programs:

- **R&D Technology Management**
  - Technology Assessment Protocol (TAP)
  - Strengthening Linkages & Cooperation
  - Research and Technology Management Program
  - Technical Assistance Services

- **R&D Activities**
  - **R&D Results & Utilization**
    - Technology Promotion, Transfer, & Communication
  - **Capability Building & Governance**
    - Gender and Development Program

**MEMBERSHIP AND MANPOWER**

ILAARRDEC is mandated to coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of R&D activities, provide direction for consortium-lead programs and serve as an avenue for resource sharing among R&D agencies to attain development in ANFR in Region I. The strong spirit of Ugnayan among its members makes ILAARRDEC attain its mission. Collaboration, complementation, resource sharing, resource generation, and networking in our R&D management activities, technology management and mainstreaming, policy advocacy and capability building efforts are achieved.

Operation in the consortium works in a dynamic approach and continuing process:

- The present scenario is considered and the needs are identified and prioritized.
- Consultations, planning, dialogues, meetings and R&D reviews are conducted to development and enable the environment and improve the present scenario.
- Then the desired scenario turns into improved productivity, better environment, and ultimately, better living.

**Strengthening and Promotion of Organic Agriculture in Ilocos Region** is composed of four studies: 1) Profiling of Existing Organic Farming Activities in Region I; 2) Information, Education and Communication on Organic Farming in Region I; 3) Establishment of Organic Agriculture Demonstration Farms; and 4) Commodity Flow Studies for OA Commodities in Region I.

**Monitoring and Evaluating R & D Activities**

**Commodity Reviews**: Seven commodity reviews are conducted each year to determine areas of complementation and eliminate duplication and fragmentation of R&D activities and recognize technologies, that would be elevated to the regional R&D symposium. The commodity groups are sericulture; other cereals, livestock and forage; forestry, agroforestry, environment, and apiculture; fruit crops; legumes, ornamentals, medicinals, vegetables, bulb and root crops; tobacco and rice & rice-based farming system; and fisheries.

**Annual Regional Symposium on R&D Highlights**: The symposium awards the best technologies in the region and serves as a venue to upscale these technologies in the regional, national, and international markets. Among the highly awarded and recognized researches are: Kawayan technology, Biofuel technology, Goat production technology, Mango technology, Off-season tomato production technology, Garlic technology, Organic vegetable production technology, Dragon fruit, and Tissue culture. The Palayamanan and CPAR projects have helped and radiated to grassroots—the farmers and other folks in the rural community.

**BANNER COMMODITIES**

The consortium focuses on twelve commodities in the region such as livestock & poultry, legumes, fishery products, bulb, root crops, tropical fruits, forestry, crops, climate resilient crops, fiber crops, and food safety & security.
ILAARRDEC bagged the Most Outstanding Consortium Award trice in 1996, 2004, and in 2012 for exemplary performance as a Regional R & D Consortium. Since then ILARRDEC consistently remained on the top of the 14 consortia all over the country.

The policies that ILAARRDEC has crafted and implemented, greatly enhanced R & D management by delineating the member agencies’ R & D thrusts and focus on bamboo, sericulture, apiculture, rootcrops, micropropagation system for high value crops, hybrid rice and organic agriculture.

The information and technologies generated by the member agencies have reached a continuously widening base of farmers and end users within and outside the Ilocos Region through the ILAARRDEC Coordinated Activities for Research and Extension, the Palayamanan Program and the other programs and activities of the member agencies.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Member Agencies**

Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU-Base Agency)
Philippine Carabao Center (PCC)
Department of Agriculture (DA-1)
Pangasinan State University (PSU)
Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)
National Tobacco Administration (NTA)
University of Northern Philippines (UNP)
Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority (PhilFIDA)
Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC)
Department of Science and Technology (DOST-1)
Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice-Batac)
Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU)
National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA-1)
Watershed and Water Resources Research Center—Ecosystems Research Station-Region 1 (WWRRC-ERS R1)
Agricultural Training Institute (ATI-RTC1)
North Luzon Polytechnic State College (NLPSC)
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)

For more information, please contact

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**MATURE TECHNOLOGIES GENERATED**

- Off Season Tomato Production
- POT on Apiculture
- POT on Sericulture
- Bio-N
- Rejuvenation of Bamboo
- Modified Dry Direct Seeding Technology
- Trichogramma Production Technology
- Charcoal Briquette Technology
- Tissue Cultured Banana
- Organic Pesticide from Gawed
- Biofuel Technology
- Goat Production Technology
- Optimized Pruning Techniques on Mango
- Hot Water Treatment for Mango
- MMSU Gold
- Mango Production Technologies
- MMSU Kawayan Pole and Tile Maker Machine
- Rice production through Palayamanan Program
- Carbonized Rice Hull
- Garlic and Onion Technology
- NTA Fertilizer Dibbler
- Tissue Cultured Banana
- E-Kawayan Technology

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