

## What do we offer?

We offer policy advice to ESCAP member states on how to achieve poverty reduction and food security targets through sustainable agriculture. We work with member states to support the review of existing policies and to design new strategies and programmes on:

- Rural poverty alleviation (economic growth, rural infrastructure, risk mitigation and social safety nets),
- Agricultural investment, and
- Food market development (production and supply policies, markets and marketing policies, governance).

We also offer short-term, on-site trainings to policy analysts working in government ministries. The following topics can be covered:

- Agricultural policy analysis techniques
- Agricultural systems evaluation (competitiveness and investment and technical efficiency);
- Poverty and food security measurements (estimation of poverty lines and food insecurity, poverty analysis for policy use, techniques for analysing poverty dynamics).



## How to apply for Advisory Services?

ESCAP member states and associate member states are eligible for the services of the Regional Adviser free of charge. Official requests should be submitted to the Executive Secretary of ESCAP at the address given below:

The Executive Secretary  
UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)  
United Nations Building  
Rajadamnern Nok Avenue  
Bangkok 10200, THAILAND

F: +66 2 288 1000  
oes.unescap@un.org



## Towards a Future without Poverty

Supporting Sustainable Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific

# CAPSA

Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture

## Further information, please contact:

Dr. Upali Wickramasinghe  
Regional Adviser on Poverty Reduction and Food Security

### CAPSA-ESCAP

Jl. Merdeka 145  
Bogor 16111  
INDONESIA

P: +62 251 834 3277, 835 6813  
F: +62 251 833 6290  
u.wickramasinghe@uncapsa.org  
capsa@uncapsa.org

[www.uncapsa.org](http://www.uncapsa.org)

## Advisory Services

Supporting National Efforts  
for Poverty Reduction  
and Food Security through  
Sustainable Agriculture



## Background

Today's global economic environment is quite challenging. To move beyond the current state of poverty, hunger and unsustainable environmental conditions, governments in the region need to envision new and innovative growth trajectories and implement supporting policies, strategies and programmes.

The ESCAP Resolution 65/4 of April 2009 made during the 65th Commission recognized the need for “...**greater technical co-operation efforts to support capacity-building aimed at strengthening national food security programmes, research and development on sustainable agriculture, and regional co-operation in preventing and coping with food crises and ensuring that all people have access to food.**”

To fulfil this need, ESCAP, through CAPSA, provides advisory services to member states on poverty reduction and food security and organizes capacity-building programmes to strengthen analytical capacity of policy analysts.

## Our advantage

### ESCAP

- Has been identifying and analysing economic and social trends in Asia and the Pacific since 1947
- Monitors progress of, and provides advice to, countries pursuing the UN Millennium Development Goals
- Advocates inclusive growth that embraces all sections of the society

### CAPSA

- Is a subsidiary regional centre of ESCAP
- Has been mandated by member states to work on poverty reduction and food security through sustainable agriculture
- Works through a network of focal points including ministries and research institutes
- Works towards a future without poverty through sustainable agriculture in Asia and the Pacific

## Why is sustainable agriculture required for poverty reduction in Asia and the Pacific?

- The majority of poor live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihoods
- Agricultural growth is key to poverty reduction
- Countries on the path to achieving the Millennium Development Goals are those that effectively developed their agricultural sectors
- The poor can move out of poverty faster if agricultural policy addresses key constraints of agrarian households viz.
  - Unsustainable agricultural practices
  - Poor access to productive assets, financial services, agricultural support services and markets
  - Lack of opportunities in the rural non-farm sector
  - Poor rural infrastructure