



International Society of Environmental and Rural Development

Charter

I Name

The name of the organization shall be the International Society of Environmental and Rural Development (hereinafter also referred to as ISERD).

II Philosophy of ISERD

Recently, in developing countries, subsistence agriculture is being converted to export-oriented monoculture, and the amounts of agricultural chemicals applied to the farmland are increasing every year. The applied chemicals in farmland cause serious environmental problems downstream such as eutrophication, unusual growth of aquatic plants, decrease in dissolved oxygen and accumulation of bottom mud in water resources. Also, there seem to be many cases in which people apply agricultural chemicals without understanding its impact to health and food safety. Therefore, it is necessary to promote and enhance understanding of sustainable rural development among local stakeholders including farmers.

Sustainable rural development aims to meet human needs while preserving the natural environment. As it should cover not only social and economic development but also natural environment conservation, no single organization can achieve sufficiently the aspirations of sustainable rural development. Collaboration among international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, together with the academe and scientific sector, is indispensable.

The knowledge and intelligence accumulated in universities and research institutions are also expected to make the programs facilitated by the international, governmental and non-governmental organizations more adequately implemented and meaningful to societal development. However, these cases especially those implemented locally have been scattered without having been summarized well or recorded in annals of academic or scientific societies.

So, the International Society of Environmental and Rural Development founded in 2010, aims to discuss and develop suitable and effective processes or strategies on sustainable rural development focusing on agricultural and environmental aspects in developing countries.

The ultimate goals of the society are to contribute to sustainable rural development through social and economic development in harmony with the natural environment, and to support the potential or capacity building of local institutions and stakeholders in the rural area with academic background.

III Purposes of ISERD

The primary purposes of ISERD are to:

- (a) contribute to sustainable rural development through social and economic development in harmony with the natural environment; and
- (b) support the potential or capacity building of local institutions and stakeholders in the rural area with academic background.

In order to enhance the realization of the primary purposes of ISERD, the secondary purposes are to:

- (a) facilitate interaction among international, governmental, non-governmental organizations and local communities;
- (b) hold conferences or symposia on environmental and rural development;
- (c) publish the International Journal of Environmental and Rural Development; and
- (d) encourage and develop local awareness concerning sustainable rural development.

IV Membership of ISERD

There shall be two categories of membership:

- (a) Individual
- (b) Organizational

An application for membership of ISERD shall be submitted to the secretariat of ISERD, Institute of Environment Rehabilitation and Conservation (Japan) or Association of Environmental and Rural Development (Thailand), in writing or by other appropriate means.

V Council of ISERD

The affairs of ISERD shall be governed and managed by the ISERD Council.

The ISERD Council shall comprise of the following post-holders:

- (a) President, who shall be responsible for the administration of all orders, policies and resolutions of the Council
- (b) Deputy Presidents, up to 4 persons, who shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President and shall carry out any other duties assigned by the President or the Council
- (c) Executive Secretary, who shall be responsible for holding and coordinating conferences or symposia, and managing membership
- (d) Editor-in-Chief, who shall be responsible for the editorial processes of the International Journal of Environmental and Rural Development which are carried out by the Managing Editors
- (e) Managing Editors, up to 4 persons, who shall be responsible for the reviewing, editing and publishing of scientific and research articles in the International Journal of Environmental and Rural Development
- (f) Treasurer, who shall be responsible for the financial affairs of ISERD
- (g) Regional Vice Presidents, 1 person per country, who shall be responsible for providing advice on and coordinating ISERD activities and memberships in the country
- (h) Special Councilors

The Councilors comprising of the President, the Deputy President(s), the Executive Secretary, the Editor-in-Chief, Managing Editors, the Treasurer and the Regional Vice Presidents shall meet, either face-to-face or virtually, at least once a year.

All ISERD Councilors have a term of office for a period of two years and renewable. ISERD Councilors are approved by the Members following a process devised by the Council.

The Council may devise supplementary policies and procedures or any other provisions for the smooth functioning of ISERD provided that the terms are not contradictory to the purpose and spirit of the Charter.

VI Amendments and Dissolution

The Charter may be amended by the approval of two-thirds of all ISERD Councilors and Members. ISERD may be dissolved by decision of two-thirds of all Councilors and Members.

VII Transitory Provisions

The first set of ISERD Councilors is appointed by the Founding Members of the Society for the period from the enactment of the Charter to the end of December 2011. Subsequently, Councilors shall be approved by all members of ISERD in a formal procedure devised by the Council.

At the 5th Council meeting, the terms of office of current and new councilors were approved to serve during 2014 and 2015.

Appendix I

The Councilors each with a term of office up to the end of December 2015 are as follows:

President:

- *Prof. Dr. Mario T. Tabucanon, United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies*

Deputy President:

- *Prof. Dr. Bunthan Ngo, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia*
- *Prof. Dr. Anan Polthanee, Khon Kaen University, Thailand*
- *Prof. Dr. Eiji Yamaji, The University of Tokyo, Japan*

Executive Secretary:

- *Prof. Dr. Machito Mihara, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan*

Editor-in-Chief of IJERD:

- *Prof. Dr. Machito Mihara, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan*

Managing Editors:

- *Dr. Jeeranuch Sakkhamduang, Association of Environmental Rural Development, Thailand*
- *Dr. Julian Torillo, Jr. Bohol Island State University, Philippines*
- *Dr. Carlos Onan Tovar Mendoza, Institute of Environment Rehabilitation and Conservation, Japan*

Treasurer:

- *Dr. Lalita Siri wattananon, Rajamangala University of Technology Thayaburi, Thailand*

Regional Vice Presidents:

- *Prof. Dr. Robert J. Martin, University of New England, Australia*
- *Prof. Dr. Mom Seng, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia*
- *Prof. Dr. Dieter Trautz, University of Applied Sciences, Germany*
- *Dr. Siaw Onwona-Agyeman, African Program on Field Oriented Leaders in Environ. Sectors, Ghana*
- *Dr. Sri Wahyuni, Islamic University of Riau, Indonesia*
- *Dr. Hiromu Okazawa, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan*
- *Dr. Junaid Alam Memon, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Pakistan*
- *Dr. Elpidio T. Magante, Bohol Island State University, Philippines*
- *Dr. Chuleemas Boonthai Iwai, Khon Kaen University, Thailand*
- *Prof. Dr. Murari Suvedi, Michigan State University, USA*
- *Dr. Vo Quang Minh, Cantho University, Vietnam*

This Charter was enacted in January 2010, at the Royal University of Agriculture, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

This Charter was amended in January 2012, at the Council Meeting held in Khon Kaen University, Thailand

This Charter was amended in January 2013, at the Council Meeting held in Angkor Paradise Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia

This Charter was amended in January 2014, at the Council Meeting held in Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi, Thailand