



# TRIAS

TURNING DREAMS INTO OPPORTUNITIES



## ► Who we are

Trias is an international ngo with roots in Belgium. In 16 countries around the world, we support farmers' and entrepreneurs' organisations with business advice, trainings or financial support.

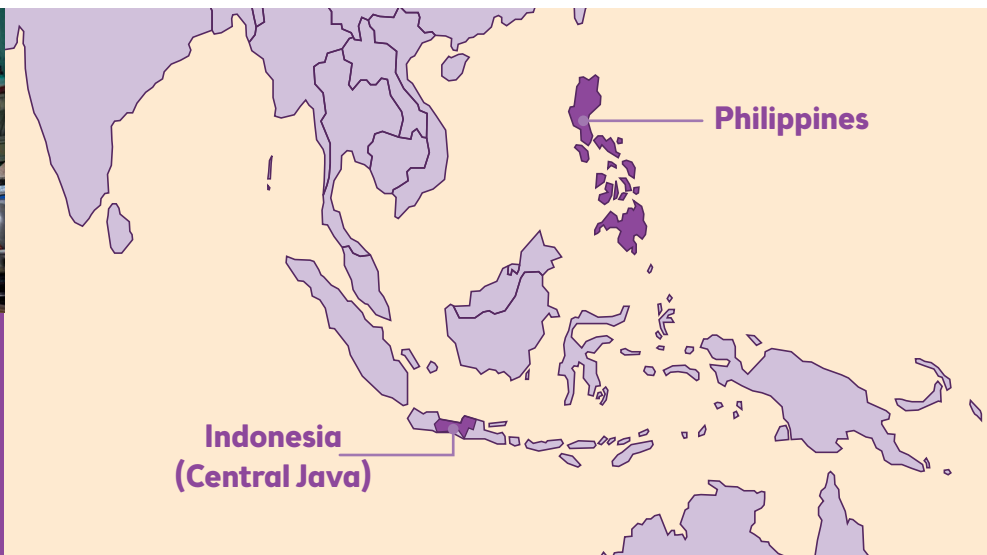
## Trias Southeast Asia

In Southeast Asia, Trias has 30 years of experience in strengthening organisations representing family farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs. Trias started working in 1993 in the Philippines and in 2021 in Indonesia. Equipped with local experience and expertise, Trias supports its partners with approaches and tools for organisational strengthening and leadership, (agro-)enterprise development, value chain analysis, gender and inclusion, climate change and disaster risk reduction, lobby and advocacy. Trias works with a diverse mix of partners, ranging from primary cooperatives of agricultural producers and micro-entrepreneurs,

regional and national secondary cooperatives and national organisations of fairtrade farmers and workers in the informal sector. They are active in – amongst others – the following value chains: rice and corn, vegetables, fisheries, sugar, pineapple, banana, coffee, cacao, food and services. The regional office in Manila currently employs 13 staff members. They work as process facilitators, thematic advisors, bridge builders, networkers, change agents and policy influencers.



In Southeast Asia, Trias operates in Indonesia and the Philippines.



## Trias Southeast Asia in 2022



**13**  
staff members



PHP **43.1 million**  
Budget

**5**

Projects

Supported  
by 5 donors



Interventions in collaboration with:

**8** MBO-partners  
(6 rural, 2 urban),  
covering 8 regions

**6** strategic  
partners

**26**

youth representatives  
devised a strategy to create  
safe spaces for young  
farmers, young women/ girls  
and LGBTQ+ youth



**6,238**  
people trained  
(67% women, 33% men)



Indirectly reaching  
**62,752**



Women, youth and underprivileged  
people in leadership roles in  
**6/8** MBO-partners



Income of 4 MBO-level  
enterprises increased by

**24.5%**



45 village-level savings  
and loans associations served  
financial needs of

**2,236 women,**  
youth and underprivileged people  
(61% women, 22% youth)



**17 interventions**

to manage climate risks, including active  
policy engagement with local governments



**Greater awareness building  
on climate change:**



**349**  
family farmers trained  
in organic agriculture



**18,000**  
mangrove trees planted  
on 7 hectares

**7** trainers in DRR-CCA  
reached out to **193** more  
to draft contingency plans  
or adaptation measures

**5** farmer  
field schools  
conducted with  
**143** participants

## ▶ Local Business Owner Shifts to Organic Farming and Climate-friendly Advocacy



Celso Espinola or “Tata Celso” as his friends call him, is a successful business owner from the Philippines. He used to manage *JJR printing*, a local company that provides various printing services such as shirts, tarpaulins, and many others. For over a decade (2003 to 2015), he made a generous income from that and was indifferent to the environmental impact of the chemicals and toxins he was using on a daily basis. Moreover, he was so focused on making profit to a point where it started taking a toll on his physical and mental wellbeing. He would often feel stressed and too exhausted to work.

Tata Celso knew that something needed to change. Therefore he decided to shift to organic farming in 2013, realizing this could be the start of an enterprise that was both successful and sustainable. In the same year, he got the opportunity to join different capacity building activities of Trias such as a Leadership Trajectory (LEATRA), an ERI CEFE (Enabling Rural Innovation and Competency-based Economies through Formation of Entrepreneurs) training, a Learning Exchange on Climate Change and Environment, a DRR-CCA training on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, and VSLA (Village Savings and Loan Association) trainings. Thanks to all of that, he gained significant knowledge in farming and managing a climate-friendly, sustainable, and profitable business. Next to that, he came to see that many people in his community were in need of similar support and mentoring in order to become successful themselves.

Since then, Tata Celso has been supporting and mentoring young farmers from the Gubat Young Farmers Association (GYFA) to become effective leaders and encourages them to save and responsibly pay loans. He has also become a climate warrior and shares his knowledge on climate change adaptation with fellow farmers and advocates for organic farming environment conservation. Moreover, he is currently the President of the Bagacay Kabungahan Farmers Association, Manager of Gubatnon Agricultural Cooperative, an active member of GOAPO sa Gubat (Good Organic Advocate Practitioner Organization and Sustainable Agriculture of Gubat), and a local farmer trainer in the Department of Agriculture – Region 5.

Tata Celso continues to nurture his passion for farming and business. He sells organic fertilizers (i.e. Gubat Natural Fertilizer or GNF), promotes income-generation strategies such as “Tatlong Kitaan”, a three-level income approach that utilizes stingless bee, rabbit, and vermi composting, and is always available to share his knowledge and expertise as a mentor or resource speaker for Trias, WE EFFECT, GSAC, and other organizations.

**Tata Celso has become a climate warrior and shares his knowledge with fellow farmers to advocate for organic farming.**





## ▶ Launching a pilot project in Indonesia



Guests and members of KSUNM who produce organic rice seeds.

In 2022, Trias launched a pilot project in Indonesia called UPSCALE or “Upscaling People-managed Sustainable and Climate-Resilient, Inclusive and Adaptive Local Enterprises.” This is part of the FO4A program of our umbrella organization Agricorn and aims to improve the income, food and nutrition security and safety of smallholders and family farmers in different rural areas in Asia. It’s jointly implemented with UPA DI, a fellow agri-agency from Canada, and involves 3 local farmer organisations: Koperasi Serba Usaha Ngudi Makmur (KSUNM), Koperasi Karya Manunggal (KOKAMA) and Himpanan Tani Ngudi Makmur (HTNM), which are all based in Central Java.

In general, this pilot project is designed to strengthen the organic rice and cassava businesses of the different partners involved. The contribution of Trias focusses on organizational development, particularly in fostering inclusive leadership, improving service delivery and strengthening the partners’ capacity in lobby and networking. On the other hand, UPA DI will work on improving business development and management skills.

In 2022, Trias already completed an organizational capacity assessment of the different partners and conducted leadership trainings that involved 22 people (8 women and 6 youth). “I am happy with the training as it clarified how leaders differ from managers,” commented one participant.

“  
The training approach of Trias  
is very participant centered.  
”



Different women from KOKAMA are writing vision & mission statements as part of one of the workshops of Trias.

### Intermediate results of the project



Reached directly

**663**  
people



**33%**  
women



Reached indirectly

**875**  
people

**71%**  
men

**29%**  
women

**17%**  
youth



Sales from 3 enterprises

**€ 124,647**  
(25% of the 2025 target)

## ► Financial overview

Statement of comprehensive support and expenses for the year ended December 31, 2022 in PHP.



PHP	Income
42,094,136.00	Funds received from donors
-	Other income
1,045,218.00	Net foreign exchange gain
<b>43,139,354.00</b>	<b>Total Income</b>

PHP	Expenditure
20,213,055.00	Funds at the disposal of MBO partners
17,834,765.63	Functioning, evaluation and personnel costs
4,030,368.17	Service delivery and capacity building
1,971,758.20	Net foreign exchange loss
<b>44,049,947.00</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>





While waiting for our next annual report, we would like to introduce our recently developed manual on gender & inclusion, available now for you to explore.



## Our partners in Southeast Asia



## Donors



 TriasSEA

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