RICE Inc - 2009
Annual Report
2009 RICE Inc-ANNUAL REPORT

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

The annual report of RICE, Inc. provides an opportunity to reflect on our work during 2009 and evaluate our progress toward our stated goals. The annual report also gives us an opportunity to recognize our many partners. Without their support of the vision, we could not have stayed the course. I would like to commend our stakeholders and partners for helping us realize our 2009 goals. We would like to salute the…

**Farmers** of the Cordillera region-- they have shown their commitment to improve the quality of the traditional varieties through all phases of production from land preparation to processing. They are committed to maintaining and improving the terraces in order to keep the terraces and their heirloom rice a living cultural anchor;

**Inspectors** -whom we salute for their determined work in providing the guidance needed for farmers to improve the quality rice of their rice. Through their rigorous inspection of the fields from transplanting until harvest, they are the first line resource for the farmers as they help them meet the quality control requirements necessary to meet international standards;

**Machine Operators** who, after an on-the-job training, were able to operate the newly installed dehuller-grain sorters and micro mills. We salute these very dedicated farmers who were willing to learn the mechanical milling process. In doing so, they were able to apply their knowledge of traditional hand-pounding techniques to a mechanical process that simulates the traditional technique of partial bran retention but vastly improves upon the whole grain head recovery rate.

**Local Government Units** -The Municipal Agriculture Offices across the Cordillera have been instrumental in supporting and sharing the project vision. These offices have supported the initiatives of the farmers not only to produce the traditional rice for family consumption but also to increase production in order to create an economic opportunity for the sale of the rice. We thank the LGUs for their continued support in providing both in-kind and technical assist to the farmers during trainings, meetings and seminars;

**Provincial Agriculture Offices** -These offices, in the three provinces of Ifugao, Kalinga and Mountain Province, have continually provided counter-part sharing for farmers' training and seed distribution. They have provided assistance on hauling the rice to the central buying location for export processing and advocated for the farmers and other stakeholders when needed;

**The Cordillera Regional Department of Agriculture Office and the Regional Field Units offices of the DA family** – RICE Inc takes great pleasure in reporting that there has been tremendous assistance given to this project by DA (CAR). A special thank you is due Regional Director Cesar Rodriguez for his support and leadership in allocating funds in support of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project. Because of the project’s inclusion to the DA’s regional budget, there have been training and technical assistance funds available to the native rice terraces farmers. This should
be considered one of the most important accomplishments of the project. Because of the support from the DA family of regional offices, there have been region-wide trainings for farmers on post harvest machines, specifically designed for native rice varieties, have been installed with the pan-Cordillera terrace farmers cooperatives in Ifugao, Kalinga and Mountain Province;

PhilRice and National Irrigation Administration – We again salute their real commitment to upgrading agricultural technology through trainings to all farmers. By working together in a coordinated manner, there have been improvements in the irrigation canals used to irrigate the terraces/fields. There is truly a coordinated effort by these government agencies to help improve the farmers’ production methods and harvest.

As we look to our milestones: past, present and future, RICE Inc will continue to work with our partners and stakeholders, who share our commitment to the vision of helping the Cordillera flourish economically. We will pursue the preservation of the environment through the sharing of resources and the valuing the indigenous knowledge of the cultures that revolve around rice farming. Let us do this in support of maintaining and revitalizing a sustainable community!

To all of our partners and stakeholders of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice project-Mabuhay!!!
Let us unite our wills to realize our goals; strengthen our resolve amidst challenges; and work with our hands and hearts to accomplish a greater vision for the Cordillera in 2010!

MVCG “Vicky Garcia”

I. THE PROJECT

Revitalize Indigenous Cordilleran Entrepreneurs (RICE, Inc.) was created to support the establishment of an economic enterprise that embraces a holistic socio-cultural-environmental approach to preserving of the Cordillera’s indigenous treasures of historic terraces and traditional rice varieties. Established in July 2005, RICE, Inc. is a Philippine non-stock (non-profit) corporation registered with the Philippine Security and Exchange Commission.

THE VISION
RICE, Inc. envisions the indigenous cultures of the northern Cordillera flourishing economically, culturally and in harmony with the natural environment of the revitalized rice terraces.

THE MISSION
The mission of RICE, Inc is to help preserve heirloom rice and the culture of community rice production that surrounds it. RICE strives to be a global model for empowering indigenous people to use their traditional knowledge and expertise in the development of sustainable and culturally appropriate economic enterprises.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
RICE Inc’s primary project goal is to assist interested farmers in establishing or strengthening cooperative organizations, which support sustainable agriculture within their communities. RICE, Inc. works with government entities and other NGOs to help provide each farmer group with workshops that encourage active participation in decision-making, and develop leadership skills and business skills necessary to participate more fully in establishment and growth of the business.
RICE INC- PROGRAM AREAS

1. **Community Organizing** - Support the farmers at the village level. Engage village leaders and farmers in regular meetings that emphasize participatory involvement; provide an equal opportunity for gender sensitive activities and provide holistic trainings to all stakeholders in the community;

2. **Capacity Building** - Provide trainings and workshops that enhance skills development, and promote and strengthen indigenous knowledge. Design activities that include young people in order to increase their interest and appreciation on their culture that revolves around community farming and associated rituals;

3. **Product Development** - Establish a product quality control system that begins with the selection of good planting seeds and guides the farmers through the agricultural cycle. Develop a system that emphasizes the maintenance and cultivation of good soil; adheres to natural farming practices, and supports sustainable water usage and good seed management. These practices will be the basis for developing a high-value product that is then processed and packaged to the highest standards.

4. **Market Development** - Provide opportunities to understand the fair trade principles in building a farmer enterprise that is manage by the producers and built in partnership with the both local and foreign market;

5. **Advocacy** – Provide opportunities for collaborative partnerships between stakeholders and project partners in the promotion of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project, its vision and mission. To engage private and public government units and offices as we work from the villages and municipalities up through the provincial, regional and national levels of government.

RICE Inc — PEOPLE BEHIND THE PROJECT

RICE, Inc. is a non-profit organization that relies on grants and charitable donations to fund its operations. In the United States, RICE, Inc. has foreign non-profit equivalency status through the Tides Foundation of San Francisco, California. Donations to our Global Support Fund at Tides help make possible the work of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project.

To donate to RICE through the Tides Foundation, please make checks payable to the Tides Foundation, write the name “R.I.C.E. fund #1703” in the memo line and mail to: Tides Foundation, The Presidio, PO Box 29903, San Francisco, CA 94129 USA. Donations forms are also available online at our website [www.heirloomrice.com/pdfs/2008_RICE_Appeal.pdf](http://www.heirloomrice.com/pdfs/2008_RICE_Appeal.pdf).

For donations in the Philippines, please contact Executive Director Vicky Garcia directly at the RICE, Inc. office. We thank you for your support!

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**LINA HERVAS-BLAIR** , President of the Board, is currently on sabbatical leave from Trinity College of Asia after being married in December 2008. While in the United States, she is actively pursuing her advocacy role to raise funds for the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project. Lina is doing project presentations to local churches and interest groups in communities around New England States per invitations from former World Relief friends and colleagues.

**MA.VICTORIA C GARCIA** is founder and the Executive Director of RICE Inc since 2005. Her 25 years of working experience with local and international non-government organizations plays a vital role as she brings the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project to fruition. The partnerships developed with both local and national government in the Cordillera Administrative region have become a model for
capacity building and sustainable development initiatives. Vicky’s passion to see the Cordillera farmers preserve the terraces and promote the traditional varieties is slowly becoming a reality as the farmer membership continues to grow with the inclusion of farmers from Benguet province.

ANGELINA A. OPIANA was an original incorporator of RICE and continues her involvement as Treasurer of Board. She presently is teaching at STEP, a private school in Baguio City. Ellen, despite a busy teaching schedule, still finds time to support the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project by helping with the facilitation of local trainings in the region. In addition, she continues to link the project with local and national organizations for possible funds or grants.

MILAGROS ORDONEZ, Vice Chairman of RICE Inc, has been in the teaching profession for the past 20 years in Makati City. She is very creative in finding the time in her teaching schedule to include the project. The past year, Milagros helped with project documentation after trainings and seminars.

DEBBIE ACHAWON joined the board in 2008. She has been actively involved in the facilitation of seminars and trainings for the stakeholders and partners of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project. This year, she represented RICE Inc in the seminars and trainings sponsored by International Rice Research Institute and PhilRice both in the Philippines and in Vietnam.

STAFF-PROJECT COORDINATORS

JIMMY LINGAYO is a native of Ifugao. He is a professional farmer with degree of Agriculture from Benguet State University. Jimmy has worked for both local and international organizations in the field of Agriculture. Jimmy experience has been integral to helping the Ifugao terraces farmers increase production of tinawon from subsistence levels to commercial volume. He is currently focusing on assisting the farmers’ cooperative to manage the heirloom rice production as a business. He represents RICE Inc not only at the provincial level but also at the regional level as our partnership with the national Department of Agriculture and their line agencies continue to grow.

PAULITA YAGYAGAN is a licensed engineer and employed by the National Irrigation Administration. Since the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project was launched at the regional level in 2007, she has served as the regional coordinator to the project. Paulita believes in the vision and is a strong advocate to the Department of Agriculture and other line agencies in the region. As a regional coordinator, she oversees the delivery of counter-part activities in support of the project.

JOVITA CAMSO was designated the provincial coordinator for the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project since the inclusion of Mountain Province in 2008. Jovita is employed by the Office of Provincial Agriculture Services in Bontoc. She coordinates the trainings, seminars and meetings for project stakeholders in all six municipalities enrolled under the CHRP in the province. Because of her outreach to the municipalities, participation and interests in the project has been growing in Mountain Province.

LAMEN GONNAY is a native of Pasil and a respected tribal leader in Kalinga. Lamen is employed part-time by RICE Inc as Kalinga coordinator. He brings the vision of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project to the far-flung villages of Kalinga. Lamen is currently focused on helping the farmers with the management of their Unoy cooperative that has been very successful in promoting Unoy at local exhibitions and trades shows throughout the region and in Manila. Lamen was instrumental in securing the processing facility site at the Congressional Livelihood Center in Bulanao, Tabuk.
II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. PROJECT COST-SHARED TRAININGS

1. The FIRST REGION-WIDE PROJECT EVALUATION and PLANNING WORKSHOP

The 1st Annual Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project Stakeholders and Project Partners Evaluation and Planning Workshop was held January 13-15, 2009 at NIA, Wangal, La Trinidad, Benguet. The workshop brought together stakeholders, farmers and project partners from the three provinces of Ifugao, Kalinga and Mountain Province and plus observer representatives from Benguet province. Thirty-two (32) stakeholders attended the three-day workshop (see picture). The workshop was underwritten by a generous donation from the Asia Rice Foundation (USA).

Although they are not currently part of the project, representatives from the province of Benguet attended. They had an opportunity to observe how the project is received in the other provinces and to decide if they are interested in being involved in the promotion of the heirloom rice from their locality. See attached per province (Table 1: Output on Vision-Mission-Objectives and Activities for 2009.

This seminar was a success because it was organized and planned in consultation with all stakeholders. Professional facilitators from outside of the project were tapped to guide the seminar participants through an evaluation of the project and develop a strategy for moving the project forward. There was overwhelming support and commitment by all participants to make this project work. Twelve farmer leaders from Ifugao, six from Kalinga, ten from Mountain Province and five from Benguet were in attendance. Eleven project partners were represented:

- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI): four people including the Regional Director;
- National Irrigation Administration (NIA-CAR): 2 staff members plus the Regional Director;
- Department of Agriculture (DA-CAR): project information officer;
- CHARM: project officer;
- PhilRice- Engineering Department representative;
- Benguet State University: Agricultural Lecturer/trainer;
- Department of Science and Technology: former Kalinga Provincial Director
- Three facilitators/resource people from Manila: Alice Pineda (former CITEM/DTI Director; Alma Salamanca (NGO & Micro Financing consultant) and Prof Alipio (Faculty of UST/UP). Three staff members from RICE, Inc., and the Executive Director.

The evaluation-planning workshop objectives centered on the following: roles/responsibilities of each partner:

- Stakeholders and Project Partners understanding their respective roles and responsibilities under the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project. (Farmers/LGUs at the municipal, provincial, and regional level and with other Department of Agriculture line agencies who are project partners);
• Stakeholders and Project Partners demonstrating the ability to work as one team pursuing the same vision, mission and objectives; and working strategically to implement the plan and process for success;
• Stakeholders and Project Partners working to establish a united economic enterprise with a product line of native rice that would strengthen the identity of the Cordillera farmers and help with the preservation of the ecosystems of the terraces and their related watershed areas.

2. CONTINUOUS FARMER TRAININGS
The Regional Agriculture Offices, through our collaboration with the Agriculture Training Institute (ATI), are providing trainings as a way to support the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project. ATI, the training arm of the Department of Agriculture at the regional level, is now targeting municipalities with high land elevation farmers for their agricultural trainings. These trainings include many of our farmer members.

A. PALAYCHECK
The Palaycheck system is a method of training rice specialists in a package of rice technologies and practices for improved yield and on Palayamanan, a diversified rice cropping system. Training activities include lectures on PalayCheck and Palayamanan, field visits and fieldwork experience on performing agroecosystem analysis, facilitating field days and farmer group meetings, and establishing and managing PalayCheck fields and participatory trials.

In their respective provincial assignments, the rice specialists implement trainings for farmers and extension workers as targeted in the Rice Self-Sufficiency Master Plan. They work together with the provincial and municipal governments, Department of Agriculture-regional field units, Agricultural Training Institute, and other non-government agencies. In addition, they are tasked to help their respective provinces draft their local master plans.

This training is conducted during the wet season, the period from October till May. It coincides with the actual planting calendar of the terrace farmers. During the trainings, farmers can validate basic information given by the rice specialist and records similarities and differences in the growth cycle of the traditional rice varieties and the high yielding varieties. More than 900 farmers from seven municipalities in Ifugao and Kalinga were included in the first batch of trainees.

The farmer members included in these trainings write and submit an agricultural plan, which will be implemented during the next year’s cropping period. Many of the participants are immediately adopting some of the techniques for their individual terraces.

B. NATURAL FARMING
Twenty-seven farmers from “Upper Kalinga” (Pasil, Lubuagan, Tanudan and Tinglayan) attended a three-day (February 23-25, 2009) seminar at TAMPCO Inn, Tabuk, Kalinga on organic farming methods with a focus on seed-soil fertility management. The seminar was part of an Agriculture Training Institute (ATI) Phase 2 commitment by the DA-Region to include heirloom rice farmers in their trainings. The seminar was divided into two groups: Lower Kalinga (Tabuk) farmers and Upper Kalinga terrace farmers. The Unoy rice farmers were included for the first time in the DA’s training for High Value agricultural crops, such as coffee, beans, citrus fruits and now Unoy rice. The Department of Agriculture now considers Unoy a high value crop and an integral part
for maintaining traditional farming systems. Because of the high numbers of farmers adhering to the natural farming system in Pasil, the LGU provided additional assistance to the farmers for the development of organic fertilizer. Agri-technicians re-echoed the training at the village level. Because of these trainings, farmers have been able to increase the production of fruit and growth enhancer IMOs, as well as other organic inputs.

C. RE-ECHOING EVALUATION AND PLANNING SEMINAR

The regional planning and evaluation seminar was brought to the village level in four Ifugao municipalities. From February 9-13, 2009, approximately 30 farmers in each of the four municipalities attended the reechoing. The same training was also carried out in Mountain Province in all municipalities enrolled under the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project.

In Kalinga, the Lubuagan coordinators, along with the municipal inspectors, reechoed the evaluation and planning seminar to 80+ farmers in their villages. The main agenda items focused on increasing member participation through increasing production/sales and involvement in acquiring machines. A similar outreach to villages was conducted in Pasil where representatives met with almost 60+ farmers with the same agenda. An updated list of farmer members who pledged to increase their support to the project was forwarded to RICE, Inc.

D. FARMERS COOPERATIVE TRAINING & LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The Rice Terraces Farmers Cooperative members and officials were able to avail of training on education/membership conducted by local resource people in the Cordillera Cooperative Development Agency. The Agriculture Training Institute sponsored the seminar on two separate occasions: one in February 2009 for Kalinga and then in November 2009 for Mountain Province. Throughout the year, the cooperative officials of each provincial chapter were able to carry out their annual meeting sponsored by local government units and other agencies.

Cooperative Local Development Initiatives

In all three provinces, local cooperatives under the CHRP are actively promoting the production of traditional rice by increasing its visibility at the local market. RTFC in Ifugao and UPTA-Pasil, Kalinga joined in the yearly food exhibit sponsored by DTI and DAR. Cooperative officials and some farmers had the opportunity to showcase the heirloom rice at two occasions: the Baguio Fair in June 2009 and the IMPAKABSAT Fair at MegaMall, Ortigas City in November 2009.

Ifugao had a total sale ofPhp 18,000 and Kalinga had sales of Php 28,000. Mountain continues its advocacy in promoting the Igorot rice at the LANG-AY festival, a provincial fiesta and during municipal AGRO Fairs. The Department of Trade and Industry has shown strong support to the Cordillera farmers in providing technical assistance on packaging and other trainings that supports the One Town One Product program of the province.

3. NEWS FROM BENGUET PROVINCE

The municipality of Kibungan, Benguet was given a project orientation by RICE Inc during a regional visit on February 10-11, 2009. The municipality has identified almost 1,000 organic rice farmers with a total of 381 hectares of irrigated terraces that are planted with traditional Kintoman varieties. 93 farmers from two villages attended the orientation. The LGU of Kibungan is actively supporting trainings in the natural farming system and has already started to organize their farmers. Samples of rice were collected and submitted to the project for consideration.
On February 9, 2009, RICE Inc received confirmation from Benguet State University that there would be future assignments of BSU agriculture and community development interns to work with terraces farmers. Students will assist the farmers documenting their fields to the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines’ (OCCP) national organic standards. BSU President Colting has agreed to provide the necessary support for a proposed launching of an HEIRLOOM RICE GOES ORGANIC project sponsored by the region’s premier agricultural university in La Trinidad, Benguet. Details of the said plan are already underway.

4. ORGANIC CERTIFICATION IN PROGRESS

On January 27, 2009, after two years of gathering information and working out logistics, a contract was signed with the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines (OCCP) to begin the process of certifying terrace areas on a pilot basis. The organic certification application fee, which covers the costs associated with verifying that the production meets organic standards, came from the grant that RICE, Inc won during the Panibagong Paraan 2008 grant competition. The Peace and Equity Foundation is the funder of the grant to RICE, Inc.

The pilot areas cover about 10 hectares of terraces within the three participating provinces, with at least one village per selected municipalities. Through this process, the first groups of traditional rice producers will become certified. The heirloom rice varieties are the Ulikan Red of Lubuagan, Kalinga; Unoy of Pasil, Kalinga; Ginulot of Bauko and Barlig, Mountain Province and Tinawon of Banaue and Hingyon, Ifugao. The documentation process is very comprehensive, but considering all the information that the project has gathered from farmers in the field and at workshops, we passed the OCCP documentation review with flying colors. Examples of the information collected included the selection of quality seeds, documentation of the traditional farming system, location of farmers and size of area/plot, yield projection per harvest basis and the farming calendar.

An on-site inspection of pilot areas took place May 18-20 in the Cordillera. The office of the National Irrigation Administration, Cordillera Region (NIA-CAR) provided transportation for the inspection team as they traveled through the four mountain provinces. NIA-CAR’s continuing support for the project’s organic and sustainable initiative is a testament to its concern for the historic terraces and their watershed areas.

The first stop in OCCP’s visit to the Cordillera was the office of Executive Director Cesar Rodriguez, Department of Agriculture, Cordillera Region (DA-RFU) in Baguio City. Director Rodriguez has extensive experience and a deep understanding of the traditional farming practices of the high-elevation terraces. There was a good discussion with the OCCP team regarding the farmers’ understanding of organic agriculture. Director Rodriguez gave his commitment for continued project support.
Site visits and meetings were held in Bauko and Barlig, Mountain Province; Banaue and Hingyon, Ifugao; and Lubuagan and Tabuk (for Pasil farmers), Kalinga. Severe road conditions prevented on-site visits to the villages of Uma, Lubuagan and Balatoc, Pasil, although the inspectors were able to interview Lubuagan farmers in the Poblacion and Dangoy areas. Vice Mayor Dickpus was on hand for the meeting and helped to translate some of the agricultural practices to the OCCP inspectors. They were also able to interview Pasil area farmers in Tabuk and later validate product development initiatives of RICE Inc with DTI-Kalinga. Final courtesy calls were made in Tabuk with the incoming Regional Director for NIA-CAR, Engr John Socalo and with staff at the Provincial Agriculture Office-Kalinga.

OCCP is very excited about the inclusion of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project into the certification process. Ms Leilani Limpin, Board Secretary and OCCP Coordinator, said that the heirloom rice will be the first official application from the CAR region. Coffee and other high value crops are still in the application/planning phase. She commented that RICE Inc is very serious about providing the best market for the heirloom rice, not only internationally but also locally. They recognize that it is also very important to create a following for this rice in the country of origin!

5. THE TRAINING OF TRAINERS FOR INSPECTORS

Over the last three years, the number of farmers wishing to participate in the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project has grown. In order to help farmers increase and improve their production of heirloom rice, RICE Inc. is working to increase the number of knowledgeable inspectors available to work within their villages.

On June 9-11, 2009, RICE, Inc. conducted a Training of Trainees for quality control inspectors at the BSU-ATI compound. A total of thirty-five farmerinspectors and agriculture technicians, most of whom had previously been certified quality control inspectors, participated in this first Training of Trainers. Attending were 19 farmers, 9 agri-technicians and 3 provincial level agriculture officers. Eight municipalities and four provinces, including a full team from Benguet Province, were represented at the training.

The three-day workshop was made possible by funding from the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project’s partners: RICE Inc with Peace & Equity Foundation, the Agriculture Training Institute–Cordillera Region (ATI-CAR), the National Irrigation Administration (NIA-CAR), and the local government units (LGUs) of the provincial and municipal agriculture offices. Vicky Garcia, who developed the training, was the lead facilitator. She was assisted during the demonstration-teaching segment by members of RICE Inc.’s Board of Directors, Lina Hervas, Debbie Achawon and Angelina Opiana and Jovy Camso from OPAG.

The training module based on the 6 “Ps”:

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND - Inspectors must know the background of the project; the vision/mission and the goals; and how those principles are being carried out.

2. PRODUCT - Inspectors must understand that the focus on the characteristics of the heirloom rice is based on the findings/research done by the market.
3. **PROCESS**- Inspectors must understand the different activities needed to carry out the production of quality product and the activities that support and validate the quality control standards, i.e., from selection of acceptable seed/variety; harvesting-drying-milling to storage.

4. **PEOPLE**- Manpower is as crucial as the product to the success of this project. This project is firmly rooted in the values, skills and knowledge of the farmers. The trainers must understand the role of every stakeholder—farmers, inspectors, LGUs, operators and the cooperatives—that support the whole engine of the enterprise.

5. **PARTNERS**- The project and the stakeholders cannot stand alone without collaborating with local government units, agriculture offices on all levels, as well as other agencies that work in tandem with agriculture sectors: PhilRice; ATI-DA-RFU; NIA and BPRE.

6. **PLAN**- At the end of the three day seminar, farmers and all stakeholders developed a plan and set a date for follow through on the agreements that are made in order to comply with the quality “P’s”…production, process, partners and the people involved.

Information was presented through power point presentations, pictures taken over the past years of project development, and demonstration teaching. At the end of each module, participants were required to lead a small workshop. The training instilled in the farmer-inspectors the confidence and courage to duplicate the training at the village level. This process of training more inspectors helps prepare the farmers to learn and understand their basic responsibilities as they participate in the enterprise or cooperative development. 35 people were trained as quality control inspectors. A number of these inspectors conducted their echo-village level seminar on quality control inspection. As a result, we now have an additional of 5 new inspectors in 9 municipalities for a total of 70 trained inspectors this year.

In the villages, a one-day project orientation and quality control inspection seminar was conducted by these trainers in each municipality during the collection of pledges. The head trained trainer in each province efficiently and effectively monitored this activity. Through village inspectors, the farmers now have better access to information that will help them plan as they decide to increase their pledges for export or local sale. The motto is QUALITY comes first and not QUANTITY. With the increase number of inspectors, the project hopes to see an increase in the quality of production and a resulting increase in sales.

6. **SUSTAINING THE FARMERS ENTERPRISE**

   Since the project began in 2005, RICE Inc has seen the growing interest of farmers in the project. During 2006-2007, the Rice Terraces Farmers Cooperative in Kalinga and Ifugao exported almost 25 metric tons of hand-pounded finished rice. In 2008, the project began a transition to mechanize the processing, from hand-processed rice to rice that was processed with appropriate technology machines. In a collaborative effort between PhilRice and RICE Inc during 2008, the rice was mechanically processed at PhilRice using proto-type post harvest machines that would eventually be procured, installed in the provinces and operated by the farmers. In 2009, three sets of machines were manufactured and installed in three central provincial locations. Once again, the farmers had to adjust to a new situation for the production and selling of their rice. During these years of transition, the volume of rice produced for export was affected as farmers tried to adapt to the changes, new procedures and requirements and learn what was required of them to take ownership of this enterprise.

In 2009, 29,000 kilos of palay were pledged from 11 municipalities. At a processing recovery rate of approximately 70%, this should have yielded over 20 metric tons of finished rice. Instead, only 8,600 kilos of finished rice were processed during the 2009 processing. The low fulfilled of pledges by
farmers needs further examination. What are the postproduction issues that hinder realizing the goal of increasing the amount of rice available for sale? The transition from hand-pounding to mechanization, with the associated change in how things were “always” done, has made many farmers take a “wait and see” view. The next most obvious reason has been the bad weather that has inundated the region. Incessant rains have delayed planting and caused problems with drying the palay after harvest. In the provinces, there is an absence of alternative drying equipment and suitable storage facilities. The unceasing rain caused landslides that made transportation in general and the transportation of the product to market, in particular, difficult and hazardous.

CHRP believes that the production capabilities exist but there must be an emphasis on increasing the support to the farmers through the expansion post harvest milling machines, establishing a more efficient consolidation system and improving the post-harvest facilities.

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<td>2000</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td></td>
<td>3300 kgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tadian</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300 kgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>11 municipalities</td>
<td>29,000kgs</td>
<td>8,600kgs</td>
<td>7,570kgs</td>
<td>16,170MT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: See table that shows RICE Inc consolidation expenses and farmers sale.

After the export ship in September 2009, the farmers’ cooperative continued to use the newly installed machines from October to December. The local community used the custom made machines, which are now managed by the RTF cooperative in Banaue, Ifugao and in Tabuk, Kalinga. The RTFC in Ifugao and Kalinga charged 5 pesos per kilo to process the rice. The processing took place 2-3 times a week for a total of 12 days a month. The processing generated a total income of P11,850 for Kalinga and P26,000 for Ifugao. This small step shows the potential for the cooperative farmers to sustain the heirloom business enterprise for both local and foreign markets. (See Financial Statement at the end of the report).

The Ifugao milling machines serviced Hingyon, Hungduan and Banaue farmers. The total income generated from October-December was P26,000 pesos. This amount covered operators’ fees, electricity, rent and a reserve for maintenance.

Both cooperative groups in Ifugao and Kalinga are beginning to look more closely at the challenges and the benefits this opportunity affords them. Farmers are looking to relocate the machines to more strategic locations for farmers- members in order to more fully realize the potential for a sustainable income. In Mountain Province, the cooperative was not able to fully utilize the machines because the operators were from the municipalities of Barlig, Natonin and Sadanga and not from Bontoc, where the machines are located. The following issues need to be addressed by CHRP as it monitors the usability and efficiency of the machines, as well as management readiness and capability of the cooperative in each province. RICE Inc will address the following issues during the evaluation and planning workshops next year:

- Usability and efficiency of the machines
- Management readiness and capability of the cooperative in each province.
- Strategic Location of the Machines
• Warranty service of the machines from manufacturer
• Design of a village appropriate grain dryers

B. PLANS REALIZED: POST HARVEST MACHINES

1. POST HARVEST PROTOTYPE MACHINES WERE COMPLETED
The procurement of the first post harvest machines for the Cordillera heirloom rice farmers was a priority undertaking for the project this year. Prior to the installation/delivery of the custom made post harvest machines, a pre-inspection team of 12 people met at PhilRice, Nueva Ecija on July 28, 2009.

Those attending included: NIA-CAR Director Abraham Akilit; DA-CAR RFU engineer Gaston Cael; DA-CAR RFU Program Information Officer Robert Domoguen; Lamen Gonnay, Kalinga RICE Inc-Coordinator; Jimmy Lingayo, Ifugao Coordinator; Jovita Camso, Mt Province Coordinator; NIA (CAR) Heirloom Rice Coordinator Paulita Yagyagan; 2 farmer-representatives; 2 representatives from the office of Congressman Agyao (Kalinga) and Vicky Garcia/RICE Inc.

During this inspection visit, Dr Eulito Bautista, who was in-charge of the design and manufacturing fabrication of the machines, showed the “prototype” machines in action. He demonstrated the functions and features of the machines:

**Dehuller with Grain Sorter** -- The features of this machine include a 5 hp engine that has a maximum capacity of 1000 to 1500 kilos/day; or a minimum of 7 bags per hour or total of 42 bags a day. (Estimates are dependent on a continuous power source and the efficiency of the operators running the machines.)

**Micro Mill** – The micro mill is a relatively small mill that is an appropriate size for village use. With a 3 hp engine, the mill is capable of milling about 3-4 bags per hour or just less than a ton a day.

The machines were tested for the power supply requirements and the capacity and efficiency. We hoped that the actual machines will be delivered on time. RICE Inc. requested an additional circuit breaker be included on the dehuller as it is unlikely that such components would be available in the provinces.

The grant from the Peace and Equity Foundation has been key to leveraging funds from the Department of Agriculture. Project stakeholders on all different levels of government from municipal, provincial to the regional offices are sharing resources in terms of technical, financial and in-kind contributions to realize the procurement of the post-harvest machines. The delivery of the post harvest machines is set for the day before each training, in order to allow time for the installation.

2. INSTALLATION OF MACHINES
RICE Inc coordinated the installation of the custom-made post harvest machines in the three participating provinces. Each set of machines consisted of a dehuller, grain sorter and micro mill. Each province made initial arrangements with its LGU for assistance in securing a building for use as its processing facility:
A. KALINGA – The Office of Congressman Agyao secured a very decent and accessible space for the UNOY farmers at the Congressional Livelihood Center in Tabuk. The Office of the Congressman gave its full support during the one-week Operator’s training. Some of his staff was able to join the training and learn the processing.

In Kalinga, the Department of Trade and Industry awarded a Certificate of Recognition to the Unoy Pasil Farmer Terraces Association for their outstanding One Town One Product (OTOP) product. The authentic KALINGA UNOY was recognized for its quality and as an important source of income to farmers, especially during the last three years. The award was a source of great pride for the Unoy growers in Pasil. This recognition event was attended by the Pasil Unoy farmers, their cooperative officials, representatives from municipal LGUs and officials from the provincial DTI.

B. MT PROVINCE – The National Irrigation Administration provided the site for the machines at its compound in Bontoc. There was an impressive show of support for the project in Mountain Province. The provincial governor’s office and the four municipalities involved in the project provided counterpart support for the project. The Regional Director of Department of Agriculture, Cesar Rodriguez, came to Bontoc to witness the unveiling of the machines. The Department of Agriculture (CAR) is truly supporting the Cordillera farmers to development their native rice as a cash crop and increase of its production. The installation of the machines is a huge step toward realizing those goals.

C. IFUGAO – The LGU of Banaue was the host municipality during the unveiling of the post harvest machines in Banaue, Ifugao. The processing facility is temporarily located in a vacant building about 15 minutes from Banaue Poblacion, along the National Road to Bontoc. The building is leased from the Good News Clinic, a medical clinic located in Banaue. PAENRO, the provincial agriculture office in Ifugao, and the Municipal agriculture offices of three municipalities gave assistance to the farmers.

3. FARMERS TRAINED AS OPERATORS
A total of 30 new operators were trained in the operation of the new post harvest machines. Each training was held immediately after the installation of the machines in three provinces:

a. The Tabuk, Kalinga training took place from August 17-20, 2009. Staff from PhilRice and JHT Micro Enterprises, the machines’ manufacturer, trained six (6) new operators from the municipality of Pasil. The local operators then trained 6 more farmers from Lubuagan.

b. The Bontoc, Mt Province training took place from August 24-28, 2009. 18 new operators from 6 municipalities (Natonin, Sadanga, Barlig, Tadian, Bauko and Kibungan-Benguet) were trained on the machines.

c. The Banaue, Ifugao training took place from Sept 1-10, 2009 with 6 local operators from 4 municipalities (Banaue, Hingyon, Hungduan and Aguinaldo) trained.

4. PRODUCTION PROCESS FOR EXPORT
The processing of the members’ palay took place during and immediately following the post harvest Operators training. This was a hands-on activity that tested not only the efficiency of the machines but
also the effectiveness of the locally trained operators. A total of 8.6MT was processed during the three training periods. The processing allowed sales of Php 489,856.00 to 240 individual and family farmers. From their sales, the farmers paid a 3 peso/kilo processing fee to their farmers’ association for use of the machines and an additional 2 pesos for their cooperative capital share.

THE FOLLOWING STEPS OUTLINE THE PROCEDURES THROUGH WHICH THE PALAY MUST GO TO BECOME A FINISHED PRODUCT READY FOR EXPORT:

1. Farmers submit samples of their native variety for consideration as a variety to be accepted by the market, as determined by Eighth Wonder, Inc., the project’s US marketing partner.
2. Participating farmers are given orientation on the processing system: There must be a commitment and involvement from the cooperative/representative from each municipality, as well as support for trained inspectors and from the LGU.
3. Farmers make pledges to sell rice with a minimum amount of 25kg per participating farmer.
4. At collection time, the farmers’ name are verified from the pledges list; the palay for each farmer is weighed on a legal weighing scale and checked for acceptable moisture content (between 11-14% only); This information is recorded for later payment.
5. Accepted palay is processed per municipality
6. Operators process the palay grains first using the dehuller. The dehulled grains then pass onto the separator tray, which separates out any empty hulls or unhulled grains. Unhulled grains are passed through the dehuller on a second pass to remove the hulls. The dehulled grains are then put through the micro mill to remove part of the bran.
7. Inspectors winnow the rice to separate out the broken grains, or any foreign matters before placing in a clean Eighth Wonder labeled bag.
8. Each bag is filled to 25kgs; the bags are labeled with the municipality, date of harvest and variety of rice
9. The total amount of finished rice is compared to the amount of palay recorded for processing. This percentage determines the finished recovery rate. This year, the finished milling recovery rate ranged from 65% to 85%, depending on the grain variety and the quality of the grain.
10. Farmers are paid by weight of finished rice variety.
11. Each bag is stacked per municipality; farmer payments are made depending on the recovery rate. The money is receipted to the authorize representative of the farmers, usually the head inspector or MAO. All monetary transactions are done with a signed voucher. A duplicate copy is given to the farmer representative or MAO for record keeping.
12. Bags are counted, numbered and placed in a data base for shipping invoice.
13. The bags of finished rice are then trucked to PhilRice for fumigation & then on to Manila for shipping to the US.

6. PROCESS: FROM FARM TO MARKET
Despite underestimating the difficulties of transitioning from hand-processing to machine processing, the operators’ trainings were a success. The hands-on-
processing with machines created an opportunity for the farmers to make a huge leap in their understanding of what is actually involved to make this business enterprise sustainable.

The operators gained new learning and developed new skills on how the machines worked. The actual experience of seeing how the quality of palay inputted correlated to the quality of the finished rice was a revelation to some. Suddenly, all the trainings that emphasized improving production and drying methods began to make sense. They could see first hand that palay that was over dried resulted in a higher percentage of broken grains. They could see that palay that was not clean required more processing time on the machines, and more work on the final inspection and winnowing prior to packaging. The operators began to understand the finer points of operating the machines: that the flow of the grain through the machine had to be adjusted in order to maximize the efficiency of the machines. Minor adjustments in the calibration on the milling machine resulted in vastly different amounts of bran removal. This hands-on training provided a great learning environment for the farmers that literally transformed them from farmer-producer to operators of their own enterprise.

For the past two years, the finished rice has been organically fumigated at the PhilRice warehouse prior to shipment to the US. Unfortunately, due to heavy rains and flooding this year, the farmer leaders and cooperative representatives were not able to get to Nueva Ecija and Manila to see either the fumigation process or the documentation and shipping processes prior to shipment.

A total of 8.6 metric tons of finished heirloom rice was loaded onto a container ship just hours before typhoon Ondoy hit Manila. This volume generated a total payment of Php 469,855.70 to the farmers for the finished product. Inspectors and operators received payment for their labor during the consolidation period. (See table of 2009 value-volume sale for Export). This year, the cooperatives were able to collect processing fees from the farmers to cover all operating expenses and also for capital build up for farmer members. Although the volume was lower than in recent years, the project goal is more than just sales. We are working together to establish a system that allows the cooperatives to run and manage their resources, maintain the post harvest machines that were donated to them, and in the end, increase their production and sales.

7. ACTUAL PRODUCTION SALES
During August and September, the months scheduled for buying and processing the rice, there were incessant rains, which created massive of landslides on all roads within the three provinces. The farmers experienced great difficulty in hauling their palay to the central processing area. Fortunately, the Operators’ Training was successfully conducted as planned and the farmers/inspectors and operators were able to process over 12,000 kilos of palay to 8,600 kilos of finished rice, which was an average milling recovery rate of 70%.

The processing took longer than scheduled because of the following conditions:

- There was an insufficient power supply that halted the operation/processing of the rice;
- There were major breakdowns with the machines and we had to wait for the manufacturer to send a repair person back to the training site;
- There was limited availability of replacement parts for the machines’ i.e. bearings and fan belts;
The continuous rain prevented some farmers from coming and processing their rice due to massive landslides on the roads between the farmers and the processing center. Now that the farmers, through their cooperatives, have ownership and responsibility for the post harvest machines, they are challenged to oversee the milling and processing of their own rice for the local market. With the installations of one set of post harvest machines in each province, a dehuller; grain sorter and micro-mill, the farmers are now able to generate additional income by providing milling and processing services to the community. Since the trainings in August and September:

- The farmers in Mountain Province have processed nearly a ton of palay for their local market. The LGU offices helped connect the farmers to the local community in an effort to more fully utilize the machines;
- Kalinga used the post harvest machines to process 300 kilos of rice for the IMPAKABSAT fair trade sponsored by DTI-DAR; and made sale of P30,000 from the fair;
- Ifugao was able to generate at least 2,000 pesos in fees for milling and processing for the local market in the province.

**RICE INC HAD TARGETED 25 METRIC TONS OF FINISHED RICE FROM THE THREE PROVINCES. OUR PROJECTIONS FELL SHORT BECAUSE OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. The global economic recession has affected export sales for high-end items.
2. This unfortunate situation has a silver lining though, as it soon become apparent that the farmer cooperatives and associations were not prepared to fully handle the transition from hand-pounding to the mechanization process. They were not prepared for the work required to do both the processing and management of the enterprise;
3. Most farmers had not fully understood what it actually means to be responsible for the use and maintenance of the equipment and site.
4. The operators, farmers who were chosen by their group to take on a new role, had little understanding or the skills necessary for the operation of the machines;
5. Farmers lacked a full understanding and commitment to the required cooperative activities:
   - Consolidating the pledges of members;
   - Implementing QUALITY standards;
   - Processing the rice using appropriate machines to meet those quality control standards;
   - Implementing cooperative agreements of deducting fees from each kilo processed in order to finance the operations of the enterprise;

**8. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED DURING THE PROCESSING**

The process of installations, training and consolidation has given us the opportunity to see the areas that need improvement:

- It is important that the farmers are supported to maintain and repair the machines. There is a need to provide the appropriate tools (wrench, screws, grease gun/oil and bolts) and parts (rubber roll, fan belts and bearings) for the machines. The proper supplies are not readily available in the rural areas. Therefore, an assortment of supplies and tools must be included with the machines. It is our hope that we can re-align the use of the unexpended funds to purchase some of the needed tools and parts in order for the farmers to do their repairs, as necessary.
There is a need to provide continuing skills training not only to selected farmers to be operators but to the cooperative officials in order for them to handle the day-to-day operations of the machines for the development of the enterprise;

There is a need to provide more training on use of by-product of rice processing, i.e. bran, broken grains, etc.

In addition, the death of Mountain Province cooperative president is a loss that will require some time for members to re-group and plan for next year’s activities and the election of new officers. All three provincial cooperatives will need to plan for the integration of initiatives to strengthen the overall Pan-Cordillera heirloom rice farmers’ cooperative. Extensive discussions must take place during the project evaluation and planning seminars next year. All meetings will be done in coordination with farmer leaders, LGUs and other support entities.

III. PARTNERSHIP

In the last three years, RICE Inc has continuously advocated for the preservation of the terraces, promotion of the cultures that revolve around the rice and for the farmers who painstakingly tend the historic landscape. This effort has resulted in RICE Inc’s participation in the following meetings that provided visibility to the project both at the local and national level:

1. PEACE & EQUITY FOUNDATION

In 2008, RICE, Inc. submitted a grant proposal to the Panibagong Paraan, a biennial grants competition for small NGOs. The competition is sponsored by World Bank and other international and national funding organizations. The Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project was one of 30 finalist to be funded. The grant of one million pesos (approximately $20,000) to the CHRP was funded by the Peace and Equity Foundation, a Philippine based foundation that supports community empowerment projects. The project was implemented between December 2008 and December 2009.

Through this grant partnership, RICE, Inc. was able to implement the cost shared goals/activities for the CHRP stakeholders. The grant was able to fund the following areas:

- Institutional support that provided an additional allowance for project manager, bookkeeper, and field staff;
- Client Development funds that covered cost shared for trainings, field staff services (travel expenses) and major trainings such as inspectors-operators training;
- Direct Cost funds that provided money for procuring one set of post harvest machines, additional post harvest equipments and planting seeds. This portion of the grant was key to leveraging support from the Regional Department of Agriculture for the additional two sets of processing machines.

PEF technical expert, Mr Arnel Sanchez, visited the project on April 25-27, 2009. Together with RICE Inc director Vicky Garcia, he visited the municipalites of Pasil and Llubuagan, Kalinga. He participated in the meetings conducted by the MAO and LGU of the two municipalities concerning the procurement of post harvest machines.

The grant funding experience with PEF also provided a valuable experience on the management of funds as stipulated in the funding agreement. At the end of each quarter, RICE Inc meticulously
prepared narrative and financial reports that described how the funds were utilized and how project goals were being implemented in terms of trainings and meetings to the stakeholders. RICE Inc successfully carried out its deliverable goals and activities. The PEF funded project underwent an independent audit by the Ignacio-Mendoza Auditing firm.

2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-REGIONAL OFFICE
RICE Inc visited the Department of Agriculture regional field unit (RFU) office in Baguio in order to provide an update on the status of the project to Director Cesar Rodriguez, especially concerning the post harvest machines that the farmers need in order to meet the production quota for the sale of this year’s harvest.

- RICE Inc was successful in eliciting the support of the DA-CAR to cover the remaining balance of Php 639,600 that was due on the three sets of PH machines. (Please see attached MOA that shows this commitment). Through the grant from Peace and Equity Foundation RICE Inc was able to pay Php 315,000 for the prototype design for fabricating the machines that were eventually procured and installed in the three provinces.

- The LGUs (local government units), through the offices of the Municipal Agriculture, PAENRO (Provincial Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources office) and OPAG (Office of the Provincial Agriculture) provided the additional seedling materials for next year cropping season. Ifugao’s PAENRO distributed approximately 200 bundles, OPAG in Mt. Province distributed 500 bundles and 200 bundles were distributed in Kalinga.

- In February 2009, RICE Inc had the opportunity to meet with Director Cameroon Odsey and discuss the project inclusion in CHARM, the Cordillera Highland Agriculture & Resource Management plan for special projects to assist in the development of the region’s agriculture and natural resources. The meeting resulted in the inclusion of municipalities involved with the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project in the CHARM 2 budget and development initiatives. Because of this inclusion, many of the farmers will be able to avail of the assistance covered in the CHARM 2 proposal, such as irrigation extension and infrastructure projects.

3. PHILRICE CONNECTS RICE INC TO IRRI
- The Irrigated Rice Research Consortium (IRRC) of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) extended an invitation to RICE Inc to attend the Crop and Environmental Science Division meeting (CESD) IRRI, Los Baños, Laguna on February 17, 2009. RICE Inc was invited to make a 15-minute presentation on its project objectives and activities in the country. One of the objectives of this meeting was to discuss future plans of IRRC Country Outreach Program (ICOP) and explore how to integrate NGO activities in rice agricultural production.

- RICE Inc attended the IRRI-PhilRice Stakeholder Meeting featuring the Participatory Impact Pathway Analysis (PIPA) workshop on April 27-30, 2009 at PhilRice, Munoz, Nueva Ecija. IRRI convened a meeting of representative organizations working in the agricultural sector. The aim of the meeting was to improve the country’s productivity through the use of post harvest technology.
44 stakeholders representing researchers/academicians, farmers, local government, all levels of the Department of Agriculture and NGO sector were represented.

- RICE Inc participated in Bringing about a Sustainable Agronomic Revolution in Rice Production in Asia by Reducing Preventable Pre- and Postharvest Losses (Rice: Postproduction and Markets) training on 19-30 October 2009 at PhilRice, Nueva Ecija. Board Director Debbie Achawon represented RICE at this training. This project aims to help farmers increase their incomes and reduce the losses incurred in post harvest activities by bringing out post harvest innovations and having capacity-building activities.

- RICE Inc was also represented at the Learning Alliance meeting on November 24, 2009 at Bohol Plaza, Bohol. Board Director Debbie Achawon again represented RICE. Participants attending were key post harvest stakeholders from the public and private sectors including representatives from government agencies, research institutions, NGOs, farmers’ organizations, seed growers, among others. This group aims to work towards one common goal: to reduce post harvest losses and improve farmers’ incomes from improved post harvest systems.

4. RICE INC ATTENDS MEETINGS ON THE FORMATION OF ORGANIC BILL THROUGH BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCTS (BAFPS) AND OTHER DA LINE AGENCIES

- RICE Inc attended a participatory-consultative meeting on the National Organic Bill at the ATI Bldg, Quezon City. The meeting was sponsored by BAFPS and was attended by numerous organic practitioners, representatives from the NGO sector, the DA line agencies and farmers/producers. It was indeed a good experience for the project to be part of a policy making consultative on organic and sustainable agriculture. The group addressed organic principles and practices with regard to production, processing and manufacturing, and distribution.

- RICE Inc was nominated to the Department of Agriculture (DA) - Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS) search for the Secretary's Award for Outstanding Organic Agriculture Initiative in the Individual Advocate category. To be nominated and recognized at the national level even though the project is relatively new is a testament to our hard work. RICE Inc was included as one of the practitioners of Organic Farming System. These contacts help provide a great network connection to the private and government sectors.

- RICE Inc was invited to be a resource speaker on the topic “Linking Cordillera Farmers to Export Market” in the Technical Session A of the 6th National Grains Postproduction Conference on November 26, 2009, in Bohol Plaza and Restaurant, Bohol sponsored by the BFAPS. The conference’s theme was “Linking Farmers to Market: Challenges and Opportunities”. This opportunity was declined because Vicky Garcia was still in the US during this period.

5. CORDILLERA HEIRLOOM RICE PROJECT LAUNCHED AT A REGIONAL LEVEL with the FIRST RICE TERRACE FARMERS FORUM

On May 28, 2009, the first ever consultative farmers’ forum on Highland Terrace Agriculture was conducted and sponsored by the DA-Regional Field Unit in collaboration with NIA at Mt Data Lodge, Bauko, Mt Province. The forum was attended by more than 200 farmers from across the region and included the project’s native rice terrace farmers, the inbred/hybrid rice farmers, and vegetable farmers.
RICE Inc was invited to provide a briefing to the DA-Secretary Arthur Yap on the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project and its performance and status of the project concerning the rice terraces farmers in the region. This forum raised the consciousness of not only the LGU of the different municipalities but of the other offices in the Department of Agriculture. The consortium provided an avenue for the upland farmers to raise their concerns and issues.

The forum passed six resolutions after the farmers discussed the issues and concerns that they are facing. The regional DA representatives presented the resolutions to the Secretary. Vice Mayor Dickpus, who accompanied eight farmers from Lubuagan (Kalinga), thought the forum was a success, despite the absence of Secretary Yap. It was the first time that his farmers had had an opportunity to share their concerns with other farmers from across the region.

This first-ever forum –exclusively for farmers in the Cordillera highlands– was attended by rice terrace farmers and farmers who have converted their terraces to the growing of mixed vegetables. Vicky Garcia was also positive about the results of the meeting. The Department of Agriculture is “starting to recognize the uniqueness of the region’s terrain and realize it is time to balance its support for the farmers. This realization alone is an accomplishment.”

6. VISIT FROM HOPE HENSLEY MORRIS, EIGHTH WONDER PHOTOGRAPHER

RICE Inc is very fortunate to have great support not only from project partners but also from family and friends. Hope Hensley Morris, niece of EW President Mary Hensley, is a very talented young photojournalist living in the New York City area. Hope has taken many of the product photographs that are being used in the online store. In February 2009, RICE Inc was very privileged to have her visit the project. During her visit she was able to travel with Vicky Garcia to Baguio and then on to Benguet, Mt Province, Ifugao & Kalinga. She also attended and photographed project activities in the village level and with project partners from DA-CAR, CHARM, BSU, IRRI, and NIA. Hope was captivated by the amazing landscape of the Cordillera Mountains and many of her pictures were used in the 2010 project calendar. Thank you Hope for contributing your skills on behalf of the project.

7. VILLANOVA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS CONNECTS WITH THE CORDILLERA HEIRLOOM RICE PROJECT

Another promising opportunity that is emerging is a partnership with students from the Villanova School of Business. In April 2009, a team of students from Villanova School of Business and College of Engineers (Villanova, PA) visited Ifugao. The group was led by Professor James Klingler, Entrepreneurship Programs Director at Villanova School of Business and former Kiangan; Ifugao Peace Corps volunteer Jordan Ermilio, who is now Special Projects Coordinator in the College of Engineer. While in Banaue they heard about the project from the farmers who were tending the rice terraces and then they briefly visited the Farmer Center and talked with RICE staff coordinator Jimmy Lingayo. Through the project website, Professor Klingler connected with Mary Hensley.

In November 2009, while Vicky was visiting Eighth Wonder in the states, a conference call was held with Dr James Klinger, Jordan Ermilio and Pritpal Singh, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Ideas were discussed on ways both business and engineering students could assist the farmers in the development of their rice market. A second visit
to Ifugao by students is scheduled over the Christmas and New Year break. It was decided that Vicky would meet with the students while they are in the Philippines and give them an overview presentation on the project.

8. EIGHTH WONDER PRESIDENT MARY HENSLEY’S YEARLY VISIT TO THE PROJECT

Mary Hensley, Eighth Wonder president, returned to the Philippines again this year to participate in the groundbreaking activities for the installations of the three post harvest machines in Ifugao, Kalinga and Mt Province. The project stakeholders looked forward to her annual visit as she shares the company’s experience in marketing the heirloom rice in the USA. This year, she assisted RICE Inc Director in accomplishing the following:

- Operators Training- During the processing of rice, Mary was able to share her expertise in operating basic milling machines; She helped explain the use of the moisture meter that calculates the moist content of the palay prior to processing;
- Hensley attended the meetings with DA and line agency officials: CAR-Director Rodriguez, NIA director Akilit; PhilRice Deputy Director Bautista and provincial governors of Kalinga & Mountain Province and met with the different municipal mayors present during the Turn Over ceremony of the post harvest machines;
- She also met with potential local distributors, the projects freight forwarder, Expeditors International (Philippines), and PMR pallets manufacturer prior to the actual shipping of rice.

9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TRAINING WORKSHOP

Rice Inc participated in the Business Institutions workshop on Intellectual Property held on July 22-23, 2009 at the Heritage Hotel in Manila. The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) organized the activity in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) and the Intellectual Property Philippines (IP Phils.). The Workshop introduced basic IP concepts, presented different strategies for protecting IP assets, and explored how business support institutions can provide IP capacity building services, and outlined the resources and opportunities available to them to build partnerships for this purpose.

10. THE ASIA RICE FOUNDATION (ARF) SEMINAR ON ORGANIC FERTILIZER

RICE, Inc was invited to attend the Asia Rice Foundation seminar on Organic Fertilizer. The seminar was co-sponsored with SEARCA, PhilRice, DA-BAR, and IRRI, during this year’s ARF Annual Rice Forum under the theme, “Revisiting the Organic Fertilizer Issue in Rice. ” The seminar was held on 26 November 2009, at SEARCA College, Los Baños, Laguna. The project was represented by our farmer/trainer, Eric Tinoyan, who conducts Natural Farming System workshops to farmers participating in the CHRP. The Forum participants discussed and shared information on the role of organic fertilizers in a sustainable rice production system in the Philippines. Suggestions and recommendations were made to government agencies and other stakeholders.

11. VICKY GARCIA VISITS EIGHTH WONDER IN THE USA

During her fall visit to the United States, Vicky accomplished several goals and objectives for herself and for the project. In visiting Eighth Wonder, she was better able to understand the marketing strategy and the efforts to increase visibility of the rice through media publicity and trade shows. She also worked to raise money for the project through donations to RICE’s Global Support Fund at the Tides Foundation.
• It was a learning opportunity for Vicky to understand how EW, as the marketing arm of the Rice Terraces Farmers Cooperative, is able to market the heirloom rice. She was able to see the next phase of the processing from delivery of the rice to the EW warehouse, storage, and packaging.

• Vicky got first hand experience on putting together a gift pack ordered online and case boxes to be shipped to local stores. It was amazing how much time and effort EW has spent in creating a brand name for the heirloom rice. It was enlightening to see the expense, effort and energy required to bring a high end product to market.

• Vicky attended the Montana Organic Association annual meeting and was able to visit the processing facilities of several Montana organic food manufacturers. She was able to see state of the art processing machines for cleaning-sorting, processing and packaging. She visited the contracted packaging facility where the 25 kilos bags of rice are repackaged into small one pound bags for retail sale;

• Vicky had the opportunity to visit several independently owned natural food stores that carry the rice and was able to speak with and store customers about the rice;

• In Vermont, Vicky and Mary gave a project presentation at the School for International Training, their alma mater. It is important that current graduate students see the possibilities of grassroots development work;

• Vicky also joined Mary in meeting with Walt Rockwood, former Asia Rice Foundation (USA) chairman, who recommended the funding of RICE Inc’s 1st Annual Evaluation and Planning Workshop; Victor Beguin, chef/owner of La Bonne Table, who has volunteered to write cooking and tasting descriptions of the rice; and Ben Watson, the US representative to the Slow Food Foundation (Italy), who has volunteered to assist the project in submitting applications for three varieties to be designated to the Slow Food Foundation’s “Ark of Taste.”

12. OTHER PROJECT NEWS
RICE, Inc. welcomes serious researchers who wish to observe the project. In 2008, three foreign graduate students conducted research around some aspect of native rice varieties. Recently, the results from two of the researchers were presented at conferences in the United Kingdom and France.

• **Giselle Aris**, masters candidate at St. Anthony’s College, Oxford University, conducted her graduate research in Pasil, Kalinga. Giselle was invited to present her research at the Green Templeton College Human Welfare Conference on “Globalization and Human Welfare: Innovations in Sustainable Solutions.” The student conference took place on May 9-10, 2009. Ms Aris also presented her research at Cambridge University’s Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) International Workshop on May 22, 2009. The workshop theme was “Fair Trade – A Moral economy? Does Fair Trade change the rules of the economic game?”
Her thesis is entitled *Producer Organization: A Market-led Approach to Tackling Poverty in the Rural Philippines*. At the GTC Human Welfare Conference, Giselle received the William Kadetz Memorial Award for Innovation in Human Welfare Research. Ms Aris has accepted a position with the Navachetana Foundation, a microfinance NGO based in Haveri, a rural town in Karnanataka state, India.


The aim of this international conference was to bring together the scientific communities of both South and North countries across a range of disciplines whose complementary approaches are indispensable to a full comprehension of current issues. The symposium highlighted research and development programs supported by national research agencies, the European Union and other national and international organizations such as the French Global Environment Fund, MAB/UNESCO and the World Wildlife Federation in the areas of biodiversity, agriculture, and sustainable development. The symposium was organized by UNESCO, IRD, CIRAD, and MNHN.

- **Cordillera Terraces featured in National Geographic Traveler Magazine**

The October issue of National Geographic Traveler Magazine featured the Cordillera Terraces as one of the 50 Places of a Lifetime in its special anniversary edition highlighting the world’s greatest destinations. Mary Hensley, as founder of the Cordillera Heirloom Rice Project, was asked to write the essay about the high-elevation rice terraces for the issue.

**IV. PROGRAM PLAN FOR 2010**

1. Improve efficiency and effectiveness in delivery of programs and services to project partners
2. Facilitate cost sharing commitment of project partners for 2010 plans and programs from Municipal-Province to Regional level (with farmers support at the village level).
3. Assist farmer groups as they move towards meeting their goals/target on increasing production
4. Provide performing municipalities with further skills development in support during off season
5. Increase participation of traditional farmers in capacity building opportunities
6. Complete the OCCP -Philippine local certification applied in 3 provinces
7. Assist farmers in the capitalization of their cooperative through percentage from export sales
8. Expand utilization of abandoned terraces for the Adopt a Terrace Program to farmer members
### RICE INC.
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
For the year ended December 31, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PHIL. PESO</th>
<th>US DOLLAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RECEIPTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from Eighth Wonder</td>
<td>485,000.00</td>
<td>10,106.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARFUUSA</td>
<td>135,000.00</td>
<td>2,934.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>21.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td>601,000.00</td>
<td>13,065.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISBURSEMENTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Expenses</td>
<td>26,933.93</td>
<td>595.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cards &amp; Phone</td>
<td>34,201.51</td>
<td>736.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation</td>
<td>33,722.86</td>
<td>733.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Expenses</td>
<td>97,570.00</td>
<td>2,121.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation Expenses</td>
<td>22,142.75</td>
<td>482.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Allowances</td>
<td>250,000.00</td>
<td>5,434.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees’ Benefit</td>
<td>110,000.00</td>
<td>2,391.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>14,379.25</td>
<td>312.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
<td>6,500.00</td>
<td>141.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs &amp; Maintenance-Miscellaneous</td>
<td>2,530.00</td>
<td>55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Disbursements</strong></td>
<td>600,029.30</td>
<td>13,044.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance, Beginning, 2008</td>
<td>970.70</td>
<td>21.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FUND BALANCE, END 2009</strong></td>
<td>387,257.40</td>
<td>8,418.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prepared by:

*[Signature]*
Debbie Cruz
Accountant

Noted by:

*[Signature]*
Executive Director
REVITALIZE INDIGENOUS CORDILLERAN ENTREPRENEURS (RICE, INC.)
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balance
As of December 31, 2020

ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>218,722.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances from Employee</td>
<td>65,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>283,722.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY &amp; EQUIPMENT</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furnitures &amp; Fixtures</td>
<td>8,528.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post harvest machine</td>
<td>115,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Properties &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>123,538.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL ASSETS

387,257.40

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

FUND BALANCE:
General Fund Balance
387,257.40

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

387,257.40

Prepared by:

[Signature]

February 2, 2010

Noted by:

[Signature]

Ms. Emily Garcia
Executive Director

ATTY. JOM. C. GORDOLA
NOTARY PUBLIC
NOTARIAL COMMISSION NO. NR-082
COMMISSION EXPRESSES DEC 31, 2021
PVR NO. 3176182; 10/12/2010; O.C.
IPR NO. 774158; 1/12/2010; O.C.
ROLL OF ATTORNEY NO. 25103
**VI APPENDICES**

**2009 Planning and Evaluations Workshop Outputs**

**IFUGAO VISION:** A vibrant community sustained by dynamic/progressive farmer entrepreneurs living in a clean, healthy environment and well preserved indigenous knowledge system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISSION</th>
<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
<th>PROGRAMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To seek assistance and support for the maintenance and preservation of culture, custom and tradition in rice farming.</td>
<td>Increase from 236K-P400K in 2009</td>
<td>Meet quality standard/requirements of the market</td>
<td>Meeting with farmer inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To sustain partnership with Rice Inc &amp; Eight Wonder for the marketing of the product.</td>
<td>Increase volume from 5.9-10MT in 2009</td>
<td>Identify committed farmers with pledges</td>
<td>Work collectively with farmer members and LGU partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To initiate participatory approaches among stakeholders in the promotion and implementing of heirloom rice project.</td>
<td>Extend regular technical assistance</td>
<td>Technical assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The members to produce quality organic traditional rice to meet the demand volume of production that will compete with local and international market.</td>
<td>To encourage 120 farmers and 5 rice inspectors per municipality in 2009</td>
<td>Monitoring &amp; supervision</td>
<td>Supervision and monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revitalize terraces farmers in the community to become successful entrepreneurs,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capability building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening linkages/networking with line agencies, NGOs &amp; POs.</td>
<td>Insure P400K for the heirloom rice project</td>
<td>Source out funds from funding agencies, NGO, Pos</td>
<td>Project proposal preparation and packaging</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KALINGA VISION:**

*We envision Kalinga to be united, progressive culturally and economically, living harmoniously in a sound and peaceful environment*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISSION</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen the organized traditional rice terraces and revive the strong bayanihan practices to maintain, sustain and develop the environment</td>
<td>20% increase in sales</td>
<td>Improve accessibility</td>
<td>Construction of tramline Rehab/construction of roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link organized farmer groups to concern agencies to provide assistance</td>
<td>Meet buyers’ requirement</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quality control; Procurement of post-harvest facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserve the culture of traditional rice farmers &amp; protect the environment</td>
<td>20% increase in production</td>
<td>Mechanized processing</td>
<td>Conduct trainings on natural farming system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand networking with NGOs &amp; Gos</td>
<td></td>
<td>Massive information advocacy on the use of organic fertilizer and pesticide</td>
<td>Additional trainings in updated technology to increase the knowledge of our farmers and LGU pax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen the organizational capability</td>
<td>Updated technological support by additional training to increase skills and knowledge of our farmers and LGU personnel</td>
<td>Increase farmers appreciation; Synchronize planting schedules; Turn idle lands into productive rices; Sufficient irrigation water; Capability building; Fund sourcing; Increase members’ share capital</td>
<td>Provide benefits; Massive IEC; Restore existing rice terraces; Agri-infra support/rehab of CIG, SWIP, restoration of watersheds; Provision of training on: production, marketing, financial management and values</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### MT Province Vision
We envision a sustained production of quality organic heirloom rice for market while nurturing a balanced eco-system and culture for the empowered, organized and entrepreneurial driven rice terraces farmers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To continue and increase production of heirloom rice.</td>
<td>Increase sales from 2MT to 7MT Marketing: To attain the quality standards of the market</td>
<td>Develop quality oriented farmer producers</td>
<td>Conduct orientation on the quality standards at the village/municipal level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To strengthen the cooperative to become self-reliant and viable</td>
<td>Increase production and sales by 25% from 2MT to 7MT in 2009</td>
<td>Procure specialized rice mill, meter, moisture meters, and dryers</td>
<td>Lobby for funds from LGU and other agencies thru preparation and submission of proposals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Linking and networking to various stakeholders</td>
<td>Increase production to as much as 30% by year 2010</td>
<td>Increase rice production</td>
<td>Restoration and rehabilitation of abandoned rice terraces, irrigation facilities &amp; denuded watershed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To revitalize production of traditional rice varieties</td>
<td>Expand to at least 3-4 municipalities as new producers of Heirloom rice</td>
<td>Divide production quota among 3-4 municipalities</td>
<td>Conduct regular meetings w/ stakeholders &amp; IAs and partners to solve problems &amp; for decision making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To engage in capacity building and values formation activities</td>
<td>Foster culturally sensitive and environment conscious of around 1,000 farmers</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>Conduct IPM-FFS post harvest trainings, soil fertility management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revitalize idle lands and rehabilitate rice terraces</td>
<td>To strengthen the networking and Linking between stakeholders and implementing agencies (IAs) and other national government agencies (NGAs)</td>
<td>Presentation of plans and activities to project partners and close coordination</td>
<td>Re-echo to the villages master listing of committed farmers and their production areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To raise funds for the project</td>
<td>Pooling of potential financial resources</td>
<td>Capital build-up of farmer members</td>
<td>Inclusion of the project to the municipal/provincial development plans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Benguet Vision
Upliftment of indigenous farming practices of the rice terraces thru cultural, economic and environmental development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inculcate the importance in preserving the traditional rice varieties</td>
<td>Invite RICE Inc. to evaluate Kintoman rice as a traditional rice variety.</td>
<td>Conduct orientation to DPA, PLOU, MLGU officials &amp; farmers re CHR</td>
<td>Invitation letters sent and programs made/setting of sked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To improve the yield of traditional rice varieties thru natural farming practices</td>
<td>Improve the yield of traditional rice from 1.8-2.4 MT/ha.</td>
<td>Invite RICE Inc. to validate &amp; evaluate ricefield areas</td>
<td>Inspection of rice areas/making the inspection report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involve farmers in the heirloom rice project</td>
<td>Encourage more rice producers (Kintoman) to increase 20% volume of production.</td>
<td>Conduct farmers meeting informing them about the program</td>
<td>Listing of farmers growing traditional rice, total areas taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage cooperation, unity of farmer/villagers in producing volume of traditional rice.</td>
<td>Involve 80% of Kintoman rice farmers in the CHRP</td>
<td>Conduct training/seminars on organic training (to improve production)</td>
<td>Formulation of organic inputs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct IEC in the importance of preserving the Kintoman rice variety</td>
<td>Encourage more rice producers (Kintoman) to increase 20% volume of production.</td>
<td>Conduct IEC in the importance of preserving the Kintoman rice variety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request financial assistance for the Kintoman rice variety from the LOU for the CHRP (input not objective)</td>
<td>Make resolutions/ MOA preparation (NGA, NGO, LOU, Farmers)</td>
<td>Training design prepared Resolution acted/ MOA signed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>