

Regional Knowledge Sharing Workshop “Best Rice Cultivation Practices”

November 3 – 5, 2015 - Bangkok, Thailand

1 Background

Rice is an important source of food to more than half of the global population and is therefore of extreme public and political importance. Its production provides vital food security and employment to millions of some of the world’s poorest people. Ninety percent of the global rice harvest is consumed in Asia, providing on average 49 percent of the calories per capita in the diet of the Southeast Asian population. In many countries the rice value chain is lacking production, processing and marketing structures and is restrained by inefficient and environmentally degrading use of resources. Additionally, ‘Hidden Hunger’ endangers the future of the region by hindering the healthy development of the next generation. Approaching smallholders vulnerable to the risks mentioned above to develop their capacities has the potential to give a major impetus to global agricultural development and food security.

By sharing its knowledge in cultivation practices and identifying best practices for site-specific sustainable rice production, the Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) seeks to contribute to building this momentum. Under the umbrella of BRIA, public- and private-sector stakeholders from Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam shape a forum to cooperate on their shared goal to improve the livelihoods of Southeast Asian rice farmers. BRIA promotes sustainable rice production and improved market access through project-site adapted components integrated in the rice value chain. The project is financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ) and BASF, Bayer CropScience, DSM, as well as Yara, and implemented by the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) in collaboration with the local public authorities.

Against the backdrop of BRIA’s experiences, which have been accrued and reviewed in the annual regional committee meeting and the previous technical workshop in Capacity Development of Rice Cultivation in May 2015, this seminar will be the second part of a sequence of annual BRIA technical workshops. It will examine the topics of rice seed production, integrated pest management, soil and nutrient management, farm mechanization, climate-smart rice farming as well as capacity development for smallholder farmers and farmer groups. Beyond technical expertise on cultivation practices, future viable opportunities to adopt the public-private partnerships model in fostering the rice value chain will be explored.

In connection with the Regional Knowledge Sharing Workshop, GIZ is initiating an exchange forum that gathers information and disseminates knowledge aggregated in the Asian development projects on natural resources and rural development, which is known as the Sector Network Natural Resources & Rural Development (SNRD) Asia. The SNRD working group of Agriculture meeting will be preceded on the 4th November, 2015, in conjunction with the Regional Knowledge Sharing Workshop.

2 Objectives, Expected Outputs and Outlook

This workshop seeks to accumulate BRIA’s internal and external expertise on rice cultivation practices for the purpose of identifying best practices and suitable approaches for their implementation.

Specifically, the sequence of sessions is designed to reach the following **objectives**:

- To review and exchange innovative best practices that contribute to sustainable rice cultivation
- To discuss and clarify considerations that make the best practices work
- To recommend how best practices could be scaled up

- To share knowledge with a wide range of key players in the agricultural sector for future diffusion and incorporation in upcoming projects.

Expected outputs include:

- A common understanding of the current state of the rice sector in Southeast Asia, including prospects and challenges in rice seed production, integrated pest management, soil and nutrient management, farm mechanization, climate-smart rice farming as well as capacity development
- A tool box of best practices consisting of guidelines and recommendations for site-specific sustainable rice production
- Priority areas to foster best rice cultivation practices through Public-Private Partnerships and future PPP opportunities have been identified.

Outlook: After accumulating best practices of capacity development in rice cultivation and knowledge management, the BRIA Regional Secretariat will seek to amplify the tool box of best practices in the rice value chain by preparing a series of further regional technical workshops. Future topics will include rice and rice product value chain development, scaling-up of agri-business models as well as public-private partnerships.

3 Target Participants

To accumulate BRIA's internal and external expertise on rice cultivation practices, we kindly invite BRIA country experts, members of BRIA Regional Management Committee as well as representatives from BRIA partners of public and private sectors, development partners and GIZ partner projects. Additionally, we would like to welcome the members of the SNRD Working Group on Agriculture.

4 Venue

[Renaissance Bangkok Ratchaprasong Hotel](#)

518/8 Ploenchit Road, Bangkok 10330 Thailand

T: +6621255000

www.renaissancebangkok.com

Accommodation at the venue of the workshop is possible. The booking form at the venue is attached. Please feel free to contact us if you need any further support.

5 Registration

Please register until **October 21, 2015** by submitting the registration form to the BRIA Regional Secretariat.

6 Contacts

For further information, please feel free to contact us:

BRIA Regional Secretariat

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA
Regional Knowledge Sharing Workshop - “Best Rice Cultivation Practices”
Renaissance Bangkok Ratchaprasong Hotel – Studio R6, 4th Floor

| Time | Sessions/Agenda | Remarks |
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| TUESDAY, November 3, 2015 | | |
| 08.30-09.00 | Registration | Room: Studio R6, 4 th floor |
| 09.00-09.30 | <p>OPENING SESSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introductory Remarks by Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Regional Project Director, BRIA - Welcoming Remarks by Dr Christine Falken-Grosser Economic and Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bangkok - Opening Remarks by Mr. Vicharn Teangtum, DDG of Thai Rice Department | MC |
| 09.30-09.45 | Program & Participants introduction | |
| 09.45-10.15 | <p>SESSION 1: Prospects and Challenges of Rice Sector in Southeast Asia (SEA) Region <i>[10 mins presentation of each key speakers, followed by the plenary discussion]</i></p> <p><i>Rice has the highest global demand compare to the other food crops in the SEA region. However, rice market is dominated by the South to South market. Ninety percent of the global rice harvest is consumed in Asia. Some challenges raised in improving and sustaining the rice production in the region. Different studies have been explored by various organization in the research and educational institutions, and have been implemented by various initiatives from public and private sectors in different partnership models to find the effective alternative interventions to overcome the challenges of Rice Sector in the SEA region.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thailand’s National Rice Policy and Regional Cooperation in Rice Sector in Southeast Asia by Dr. Apichart Pongsrihadulchai - Thai Rice Department | Plenary session |
| 10.15-10.45 | <i>Group Photo and Coffee Break</i> | |
| 10.45-12.00 | <p>SESSION 1: Prospects and Challenges of Rice Sector in SEA Region (cont’d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi stakeholders platform and partnership in overcome the rice sectors’ challenges by Mr. Bas Baumann – IRRI - Comparative Study on Farm Economics in Southeast Asia by Ms. Tanja Möllmann - Agribenchmark | Plenary session |

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| 12.00-12.15 | Introduction to the SESSION 2 – Parallel group session ¹ | MC |
| 12.15-13.30 | Lunch Break | |
| 13.30-15.00 | <p>SESSION 2 – Best Rice Cultivation¹</p> <p>A: Seeding to Planting <i>Seed is the foundation of any rice crop. Yet, it must be grown, harvested, and processed correctly for best yield and quality results. The seed quality also affects the potential to achieve high yield and to get good market price. Aside from the seed selection, suitable seeding and planting method will also affect the rice productivity.</i></p> <p>A1. Seed Optimization and Techniques by Dr Aurora Corales - PhilRice</p> <p>A2. Legowo Planting Technique – Indonesian experience</p> <p>B: Soil and Nutrient Management <i>Land preparation is important to ensure that the rice field is ready for planting. Soil nutrition level is not supposed to rely only on the additional nutrition treatment, but also with well-prepared field. It can help to control weeds, recycles plant nutrients, and provides a suitable soil condition for rice planting.</i></p> <p>B1. Tailor-made Fertilization through Soil Test Kit – Indonesian experience</p> <p>B2. Plant Nutrition by Mr. Tomas Quimbo - Yara Philippine</p> | <p>Parallel group session ¹ Studio R6 & Studio R5</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Dominik Fortebacher, GIZ</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Matthias Radek, BRIA Philippine</p> |
| 15.00-15.30 | Coffee Break | |
| 15.30-17.00 | <p>SESSION 2 – Best Rice Cultivation (cont'd)¹</p> <p>C: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Crop protection <i>Farmers lose an estimated average of 37% of their rice crop to pests and diseases every year. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices.</i></p> <p>C1. IPM Study and Training in Vietnam by Mr. Ambros Dotzer – GIZ SAS Viet Nam</p> <p>C2. Safety and Stewardship through Mass Media Edutainment by Dr. Pakorn Suchare – BASF Thailand</p> | <p>Parallel group session ¹ Studio R6 & Studio R5</p> <p>Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsanga – GIZ ASEAN SAS Senior Regional Coordinator</p> |

¹ Each parallel session will have an assigned moderator. The session starts by a short introduction of the topic, followed by selected presentations up to maximum 3 (@10mins). The floor for questions of clarification is open after each presentation for max. 10 mins. After that, a working group discussion will follow. Each session will decide a representative to share with the plenary in SESSION 3 using the given guideline.

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| | <p>D: Farm Mechanization <i>Farm mechanization is needed to improve the net-profitability of rice farming and secure food security. In order to combat labour shortages, mechanization could potentially be one of the alternatives, as well as to improve the production quality.</i></p> <p>D1. Large field operation to foster farming mechanisation by Mr. Phan Huy Thong - Director of National Agricultural Extension Centre, MARD Viet Nam</p> <p>D2. Business Model for Application of Farm Machinery in small-holder farmer groups by Mr. Atthawit Watcharapongchai – BRIA Thailand</p> | <p>Moderator: Mr. Dominik Fortenbacher, GIZ</p> |
| 17.00-17.15 | Closing of day 1 & Announcements | |
| 18.30-20.00 | Reception Dinner | The Azure – Sky studio, 33 rd floor |
| WEDNESDAY, November 4, 2015 | | |
| 08.30-08.45 | On-boarding: Day 2 | Room: Studio R6 |
| 08.45-10.30 | <p>SESSION 2 – Best Rice Cultivation (cont'd)¹</p> <p>E: Climate Smart Rice Farming <i>Agriculture is highly exposed to climate change, as farming activities directly depend on climatic conditions. FAO promotes a Climate-smart agriculture which promotes production systems that sustainably increase productivity, resilience (adaptation), reduces/removes GHGs (mitigation), and enhances achievement of national food security and development goals. The recognition for the importance of adopting climate smart practices, policy and finance in the international arena has been growing. However, there are still knowledge gaps at the methodological, policy and financial levels.</i></p> <p>E1. Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in the Rice Sector by Mr. Paolo Ficarelli - IRRI</p> <p>E2. ASEAN Climate Resilient Agriculture Network by ASEAN CRN by Mr. Pham Quang Huy, International Cooperation Dept. MARD Viet Nam</p> <p>F: Capacity Development <i>In order to improve the rice cultivation, a broader understanding and concern of the importance of the good practices in rice cultivation should be improved. Capacity development in the sector is not limited only to certain level of stakeholder, but it's a continuous process and approach to all stakeholder along the value chain in various inter-linkages topics.</i></p> <p>F1. Finding of BRIA Workshop on Capacity Development for Rice Cultivation by Ms. Astari Widya Dharma, BRIA RS</p> | <p>Parallel group session Studio R6 & Studio R5</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Juejan Tangtermthong – BRIA M&E Advisor</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Elisabeth Fischer – GIZ ASEAN SAS Advisor on capacity development</p> |

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| | <p>F2. Participatory Impact Pathway Analysis in Rice Farmers' Capacity Development by Ms. Pornsiri Senekas - Thai Rice Department</p> <p>F3. Agriculture Extension System by Mr. Rene Dela Cruz - ATI Philippines</p> | |
| 10.30-11.00 | Coffee Break | |
| 11.00-13.00 | <p>SESSION 3: Best Rice Cultivation – presentations & recommendations Outcomes and recommendations from SESSION 2 <i>[5 mins presentation of each working group, followed by plenary discussion]</i></p> | <p>Plenary discussion Moderator: Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn</p> |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch Break | |
| 14.00-15.30 | <p>SESSION 4: PPP Approach on Best Rice Cultivation <i>Public private partnerships (PPPs) have a high potential to improve the effectiveness and outreach to improve and sustain the development project. To improve the rice cultivation practices, collaboration within public and private sectors are necessary. Best rice cultivation practices will be carried sustainably with the simultaneous support from different stakeholders, such the policy makers, traders, input suppliers, development agencies, and others. This session will help the participants to identify the priority areas to foster best rice cultivation practices through PPP as well as identify future opportunities to initiate PPP model.</i></p> <p>Panel discussion moderate by Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Sector: Dr. Phan Huy Thong - Director of National Agricultural Extension Centre, MARD Viet Nam - Private Sector: Mr. Paul Nicholson - OLAM International - Farmer Association: Ms. Tatsanee Setboonsarng – NawaChi One Foundation - Development Partner: Mr. Bas Baumann - Project Director GRiSP IRRI - develoPPP : Mr. Jan Fraeb - GIZ | <p>Panel discussion</p> |
| 15.30-16.00 | Coffee Break | |
| 16.00-17.00 | <p>Closing Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop Summary by Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, BRIA - Regional Project Director - Evaluation and Announcements - Closing Remarks by Dr. Matthias Bickel, BRIA – Focal Point | <p>Plenary</p> |
| THURSDAY, November 5, 2015 | | |
| 07.30-18.00 | Technical Visits | |