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The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms.

The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.



The European Union's programme for "Technology Transfer for Food Security in Asia"

Network for Knowledge
Transfer on Sustainable
Agricultural Technologies
and Improved Market
Linkages in South and
South-East Asia
(SATNET Asia)

2012-2014







Background

Rural poverty and malnutrition, gender inequalities and environmental degradation remain rampant in South and South-East Asia. Although some countries in the region have made great strides toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the majority of the world's poor people still live in developing countries in South and South-East Asia, where there is the highest proportion of undernourished people worldwide. Agriculture (including fisheries, aquaculture, horticulture and forestry) is the economic backbone of most of these countries, yet growth within the sector, especially in less-favoured environments, has remained low. Although past decades have witnessed unprecedented growth in the agricultural sector (the Green Revolution), too little of this growth has benefited the poorest and most vulnerable. The current organization of knowledge, science, and technology cannot adequately deal with the challenges to sustainable food systems because information on food, health, agriculture, forestry, landscape management, rural areas, environment, climate, ecology, and policy trends continue to reside in separate 'knowledge silos'. This has resulted in two major factors contributing to low growth: the lack of alternative technologies to address the needs in particular of poor farmers, and bottleneck design flaws in methods for disseminating and upscaling technologies and access to markets for poor farmers.

Partners

- Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture (CAPSA)
- Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT)
- Trade and Investment Division (TID), ESCAP
- The World Vegetable Center East and South-East Asia (AVRDC ESEA)
- Food Security Center (FSC), University of Hohenheim

Objectives

Overall objective: to contribute to improved food security and nutrition of the poorest and most vulnerable people in South and South-East Asia.

Specific objective: to support innovation by strengthening South-South dialogue and intraregional learning on sustainable agriculture technologies and trade facilitation.

Target groups

Various agents along domestic and regional value chains who play a role as change agents and innovators. More than 30 institutions in target countries have already been invited to participate in the project, and the network is open to include additional organizations that work in the area of research, advocacy and capacity building for agriculture and food trade.

Final beneficiaries

Smallholder farmers and other poor and vulnerable members of the value chains.

Target countries

















Expected results

This action will work through engagement, learning and **sharing** and will be implemented through five work packages that lead to four expected results:

The action will provide an enabling environment for: more efficient and effective dissemination of technologies for agricultural production, processing and marketing; and the process of trade facilitation for food through the establishment and facilitation of a network across and within countries in South and South-East Asia.

Expected Result

A vibrant network of change agents is established and maintained.

The action will contribute to the reduction of poverty by generating knowledge about the conditions under which agricultural technologies disseminate easily (including ecological zones and challenges) and synthesize sustainable technologies that are the most appropriate; and about effective trade facilitation measures for food products.

Expected Result

A portfolio of knowledge and best practices on sustainable agriculture technology options is made available to stakeholders.

Effective trade facilitation measures for food products are identified and recommended.

The action will strengthen rural innovation for the benefit of the most vulnerable and rural poor by using the knowledge generated above to develop and promote strategies and methods for application and scaling up of appropriate technologies and best practices.

Expected Result

Stakeholders have increased capacity to implement options related to trade and technologies.