

**Project:** Agricultural learning exchange Asian Regional Network (Ag LEARN)

**Project area:** Chitwan, Surkhet and Banke districts

**Project Period:** May 2013 to Nov 2014

**Target group:** 150 farmers

**Partners:** USAID/RDMA, AIT-Thailand, NARC, BARI-Bangladesh, ICRISAT-India, IRRI-Philippines, IITA-Cambodia, CEDAC-Cambodia, SOFILWMM-India, CMU-Thailand, KU-Thailand

**Project goal:** Improve the overall farm production through sustainable agricultural practices and technologies

### **Key activities and implementation modalities**

The project functioned as a consortium of partners led by the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT). It adopted social mobilization, participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation (PPME), local resource persons (LRPs) development, inclusive development and farmer-to-farmer extension approach in the program implementation.

The key activities of the project mainly included on-farm testing and field demonstration of various technologies. Besides, the project organized capacity building trainings and events, facilitated two phased internship programmes for farmers in Thailand, and documented the success cases and technologies.

### **Major Achievements**

- Technologies tested in different crops as bed drying, improved lentil farming, rhizobium treatment, zero till garlic farming, poly-mulching, soil solarization, foliar fertilizer, Trichoderma incorporation, drip irrigation, fermented fruit juice, Bokashi manure, wood vinegar, herbal steam and other proven technologies
- Three farmers participated in one-month internship program and 15 farmers in 15-day internship program in Thailand and learnt various innovative technologies for organic farming.
- Developed local resource persons (LRPs) through various exposure and training to ensure the continuity of the technologies promoted by the project.

### **Impact**

The training, field demonstration, and internship programs enhanced the farmer's capacity and encouraged for the adoption of promising and innovative technologies, especially use of herbal steam and bicycle pump.

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