Project Information

- Duration: Started in May 2008 – April 2011
- Project area: Yasothorn Province, Northeast
- Earth Net Foundation and Oxfam GB, Thailand
- Beneficiaries: 512 hh. organic jasmine rice farmers (57 pilot hh. in 2008 >>>> 120 hh. in 2010)
- 3 CBOs
- Organic Rice Farming System, Fair Trade, and Climate Change Adaptation
Project implementation principles:

- Building up resilience in managing risks
- High participation of affected farmers/communities
- Promoting sustainable (agriculture) development.
Participation of local farmers in Climate Change Adaptation Process

Why participation?

Because we need affected people to

- Take action
- Change in attitude, knowledge and way of practice,
- Adaptative capacity/ Continuing process of adaptation - cannot stop adapting,
- Adaptation is a local specific process: appropriate to local situation, suitable adaptation techniques... etc.
How participation?

How Jasmine rice farmers participated in the CC Adaptation Process

1. Participation in Analysis of CC impacts, their vulnerability and coping capacity.
## Jasmine rice cultivation process and period of rain fall

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<thead>
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<th>July-September</th>
<th>October</th>
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<td><strong>Weather variation at present (epically in year 2007 and 2008)</strong></td>
<td>Start raining</td>
<td>Little or no rain</td>
<td>Little or no rain at beginning, and it come in the end of August and heavy in September</td>
<td>Continue raining</td>
<td>Continue raining (heavy) and stop at the end of the month</td>
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2. Participation in identification and selection of their coping strategies/ adaptation options, technique and development of adaptation plan
57 farmers’ hh. got intensive trainings

Analysis and Design their own Adaptation technique
Example of on-farm water management of Mr. Manoon Phupha
1. On-farm water management

Considered factors in adaptation technique selection:

- Energy saving
- labor force: especially for women and children
- area specification: landscape, water source
2. Diversify Crops and livelihood opportunities:

“Don’t Put all your eggs in one basket”
Maximize of their land
3. Using local wisdom

Using local seeds:
- stand against drought, using less water
- low input cost
4. Adaptation method/technique inline with the sustainable development: Promote Organic Farming System

- Less input cost, less energy consumption and less greenhouse gas emission
- Strong plant and good quality of soil
3. Participation in adaptation cost

- Project provided seed fund to farmers with low rate of interest through community fund committee.

- After 3 years, 100% of pilot farmers have returned as promised.
- Returned money could expand the number of project farmers.
4. Participation in project management and replication of project’s good practices including policy advocacy and public campaign
DVD Production

Adaptation to Climate Change for Food Security
Promoting the project outcome to other farmers
Publication of the case study
Adaptation to Climate Change

This is an Oxfam and Earth Net Foundation film about Thailand's climate initiatives.

To deal with the impact of climate change, adaptation in the farming sector needs to be varied and diversified, according to differing limitation, to minimize damage and loss. A proper policy on adaptation needs to be promoted at all levels.
Study finds Thai farms need help to weather climate change

Bangkok Post: Proper and timely intervention, including efficient water management, is needed to help ease the impact of climate change on the farming sector, a recent study says. The study by the international aid agency Oxfam shows that farmers in areas where up-to-date on-farm facilities are in place can deal with the negative impact better than those lacking such aids.

The agency last year launched a pilot project to help 57 farming families in Yasothon province to cope with unusually severe drought and floods by putting in place proper irrigation systems and promoting multi-cropping. Farmers in the province have seen a drop in rice production in recent years which the agency believes is associated with climate change, said Supaporn Anuchiracheeva, Oxfam project coordinator. After the last harvest it was found the crop yields of the assisted farmers were up an average of 27% on last year, she said. Around 52% farming families without irrigation support saw an average
East Africa could Learn from Bangkok Study

May 5, 2009 9:24 am
posted by KenOdero

By leaning from the experience of other regions in similar circumstances, African countries could avert the sort of scenes currently witnessed in Kenya where close to 10 million people face starvation due to failed rains and other climate-related conditions. A study published in the Bangkok Post shows that proper and timely intervention, including efficient water management, is needed to help ease the impact of climate change on the farming sector. The study by Oxfam shows that farmers in areas where up-to-date on-farm facilities are in place can deal with the negative impact better than those lacking such aids.

The agency last year launched a pilot project to help 57 farming families in Yasothon province to cope with unusually severe drought and floods by putting in place proper irrigation systems and promoting multi-cropping. "The project's outcome indicates that it is vital to offer support to farmers to deal with the effects of climate change," Ms Supaorn Anuchirachaeva, Oxfam project coordinator said. "The state should take this concern seriously."

East African countries must learn these lessons fast in order to deal with inevitable climate variations and change. Already most part of the region and continent are facing the impacts of a changing climate. Given that this had been predicted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its Fourth Assessment Report published in 2007, no government has an excuse of not acting in the interest of her own people.
Project Outcome

- Year 2008, about 455 organic rice farmers lost more than 40% of their rice production, while 57 pilot households lost about 16%.
- 85% of the 57 pilot households were able to maintain their level of rice production for household consumption.
- 26% of the 57 pilot households produced enough surplus to sell at market.
- 15% suffered losses in rice yield, because water systems were not established in time.
- Several households grew vegetables and planted fruit trees as alternative crops, earning households between 500-1,500 baht (17-50 USD) per week.
Success

- Farmers’ awareness were raised, understand on CC situation = need weather information for farm planing
- Workable on-farm water-management system could help farmers mitigate risks and reduce damage from climate impacts.
- Reinforce the message to promote sustainable agriculture: multi-crop, organic farming system.
Lesson Learned

- Adaptation programme cannot be designed “One fit All” ..... depends on local specific...
  - Vulnerability: climate, social, economic and policy
  - Coping capacities,

- Affected people/ communities must go through the process of adaptation programme plan and select their adaptation method/ strategies by themselves.
- Providing assistance/ support need to take into the account on difference.
- Collaboration with multi-organizations are required.
Challenges

- How to increase flexibility of adaptation technique to deal with wide range of weather variation?
- How to scale up the model from HH. level to community, provincial, regional and national level?
  - Agriculture product >>> Ecosystem management
  - Dealing with small impacts >>> Disaster
  - Replication of good practice
  - National agenda….. Focus more on adaptation
- How farmer continue to access weather information?
- Where money come from for replication nationwide?
- How the risks could be shared.
Next ............. Year...2011-2013

- Development of various kind of adaptation technique,
- Community Weather Forecast Center,
- Community Adaptation Plan,
- CC Adaptation Financial Scheme.
- Scaling up/ Replication of good practices.
Brief study on CC impacts on women roles in jasmine rice cultivation family

Roles of women:
Equal to man in farming activities, and roles on health care and food supply for family members.

Decision making: in general, the culture of the Northeast region, man move to woman’s family. Work on the land which belong to women’s family. Women and man has full responsibilities on the farm production.

- Impact on food security,
- Impact on family income: food, health and education,
- Impact on family bond,
- Impact on women workload.
Thank You