



GREATER MEKONG  
SUBREGION  
CORE AGRICULTURE  
SUPPORT PROGRAM



# Agro-ecological Farming Initiatives - Cooperation between Asia Development Bank (ADB) and the Department of Agriculture (DoA)



# CASP-2 Project Background

As the First Regional Technical Assistance started in January 2014

Total Budget US\$ 300,000

**LOA Signing**

11 February 2015

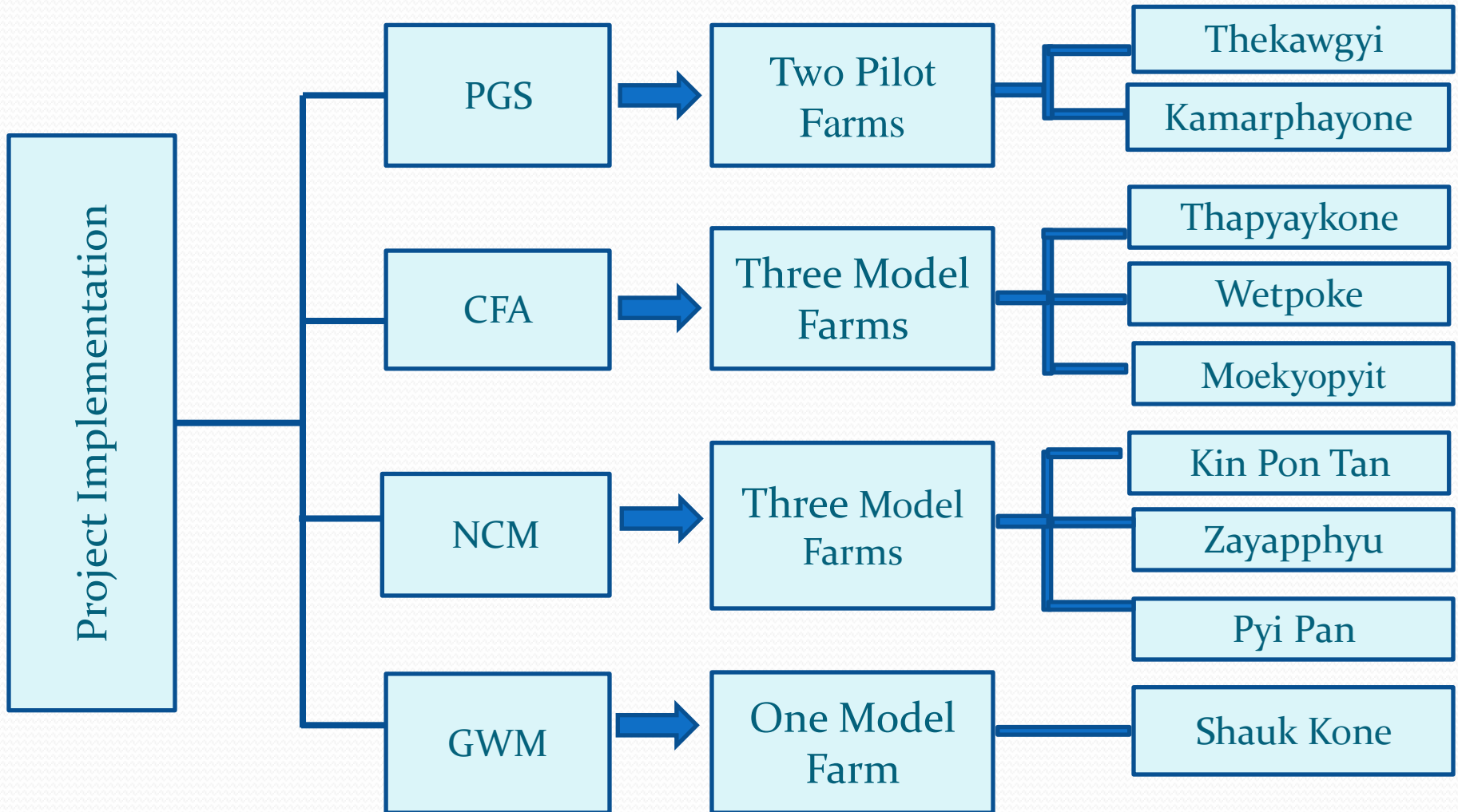
**Project Implementation** March 2015 – June 2016

**Vision of CASP 2** : For the GMS to be “recognized as the leading producer of safe food, using climate friendly agricultural practices and integrated into global markets through regional economic corridors”.

# Inputs

- Trainings for capacity building of DOA staffs and farmers
- Establishment of demonstration farms
- Support raw materials for making organic inputs

# Demonstration Farms



# Training and Workshops according to Project Outputs

No.	Training	No.of Participants			Total	Remarks
		Sites	Farmers	Staffs		
1.	1 <sup>st</sup> time	9	428	96	524	May 2015
2.	2 <sup>nd</sup> time	9	562	125	687	Sep, Oct,2015
3.	3 <sup>rd</sup> time	9	439	82	521	Dec. 2015
4.	4 <sup>th</sup> time	9	365	159	524	Feb 2016
5.	5 <sup>th</sup> Time	9	185	109	294	May 2016
6.	PGS & Organic Farming Training	2	75	44	119	January 2016
	Total		2054	615	2669	

# Training and Workshops according to Project Outputs

No.	Training		No.of Participants		Total	Remarks
		Sites	Farmers	Staffs		
7.	post-harvest technology training		15	-		Post-harvest Technology Training Center in Htonebo,
8.	GWM forum	1	-	58	58	CARTC Feb 2016
9.	CFA& GWM	1	-	47	47	CARTC June 2016
10.	PGS workshop	1	-	2	2	Yangon, June 2016
11.	PGS & OF Workshop training	1	-	42	42	DOA, March 2015
	<b>Total</b>		<b>2069</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>2818</b>	



















# Outcomes

- Farmers from all project sites accepted the idea of climate change, global warming, and to reduce the harmful effect of agricultural practices on environment.
- Understood the value of farm wastes
- Burn no more of farm wastes. In this way reduce the smokes from field burning
- Demo farmers shared the experience of CFA to the other farmers
- PGS Farmers have been organized as the farmer group for getting assure markets
- Project can strengthen food safety, climate friendly agriculture and trade opportunities

# Findings

## Awareness of farmers who participated in the trainings

Subject	Before Project	After Project
Climate Change	15% awared	90%
Agriculture's impacts on climate change and GHGs	5% awared	70%
Pesticide's effects on human health	25% awared	100%
Pesticide's effects on environment	15% awared	80%
Safe pesticide use	5% awared	90%
Efficient fertilizer use	10% awared	90%
Organic fertilizers and pesticides	15% awared	100%



## Relevance of the Projects with Farmers' Current Needs

- I. Soil's response to fertilizer
- II. Soil structure degradation
- III. Pest Outbreak
- IV. Climate Change

## Lessons Learnt

- Technology adoption by farmers took almost two cropping seasons (about six to nine months)
- Limited project implementation period
- By reducing chemical fertilizer use and increase use of organic fertilizer:
  - ✓ soil water holding capacity has been improved
  - ✓ frequency of irrigation has been reduced
  - ✓ cost of irrigation could also be saved even during the initial year of organic input application
  - ✓ Soil organic matter content improved and easier to plough the land
  - ✓ soil born diseases reduced

## Sustainability?

Nr.	Venue	Total Participants	Pilot Farmers
1.	Thekawgyi	340	40
2.	Kamarphayone	159	22
3.	Kin Pon Tan	201	25
4.	Zayapphyu	163	10
5.	Pyi Pan/Pintalae	132	36
6.	Ko Ywar Tha Pyay Kone/Tharyarkone	266	21
7.	Wet Poke Ywama	162	42
8.	Moekyopyit	206	18
9.	Shauk kone	240	312
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1869</b>	<b>226</b>

# Technology Adoption of Farmers - Issues for Consideration

- Production risk (pest problem) of using organic inputs during transition
- Raw material availability
- Labour availability
- Work load
- Yield during transition period
- Market for products

## Recommendations

- Activities for raising consumers' awareness on food safety and environmental sustainability
- Encourage farmers to practice sustainable agriculture practices by changing their mindsets (rather than the price, giving priority for sustainable production)
- Policy level supports for development of agro-ecological farming practices through
  - ✓ Extending supports for further development of PGS as a tool to provide organic certification to compliment and strengthen existing initiatives
  - ✓ Establishment of climate-friendly villages/ green village in the future



**Thank You**