

**Minutes of SANRM meeting**  
*NGO Resource Centre - Afternoon 06 April 2007*

**1. Participants:**

Please see the end of the minutes.

**2. Contents and activities**

Participants self-introduce themselves

**2.1. Workshop on sharing experience of SRI method in Cambodia and Vietnam**

- Ms. Som Neary delivers a presentation consisting of 2 parts.

Part 1: Introduction of activities of JVC Cambodia.

Part 2: Introduction of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Cambodia.

- Discussion about the SRI method. Questions and answers are as follows:

**Questions&answers**

**1. Participant from Thai Nguyen Farmer Training Center: Why do we have to transplant the seedlings immediately after picking them up?**

*Ms. Neary: We must do that in order to ensure the seedlings' abilities to absorb nutrients and grow well.*

**2. Mr. Think: We can see very long trees in photograph. Is there any correlation to the variety there?**

*Ms. Neary: We must use local varieties to suit the climate.*

**3. Mr. Anderholm: What kinds of fertilizer have you used? Do you use straw?**

*Ms. Neary: We have used both muck and green manure with absolutely no chemical fertilizer. Straw has also been used. Fertilization has been taken twice. The first time is before transplanting, and the other one is 4 weeks after transplanting.*

**4. Mr. Koen: In this method, you have used 1 tiller per 1 stem instead of 5, 6 or more, is there any risky of losing**

*Mr. Hung: It is very cold in winter in Hoa Binh. Protection of plants from chill does not depend on the number of tillers. If it gets too cold, the seedlings will die, no matter of the number of tillers.*

*\* Ms. Kem: if the temperature falls below 15°C, we recommend farmers not to transplant seedlings.*

**5. Mr. Quoc Anh: In Vietnam, there is often no sufficient green manure, so we have to use chemical fertilizer. How about the situation in Cambodia. Could you share your experience?**

*Ms. Neary: Manure is much available in Cambodia as people raise cows and plant various kinds of trees to harvest leaves, such as Sesbania.*

**6. Mr. Quoc Anh: Has JVC Cambodia conducted this project in cooperation with other organizations? How about the government agencies?**

*Ms. Neary: Cambodian government supports the application of SRI. When we obtained good result, we informed the concerned agencies and got support.*

**7. Mr. Koen: Is there any other organization applying SRI method in Vietnam?**

*Mayu: No, as I know.*

**8. Ms. Chau: Is it feasible to apply SRI on various types of soil?**

*Mr. Hung: SRI was first applied in Hoa Binh in 2003, covering an area of more than 30 ha. Up to 2006, there were just 6 localities using this method. Among which, we face difficulty in draining in some places. So we currently do not hold adequate information to solve this problem.*

**9. Mr. Wyler: What kind of variety do you often use in Hoa Binh?**

*Mr. Hung: We have used CR203 (High-yielding varieties, HYVs) and Nhi uu 838 (F1 hybrid variety).*

**10. You have mentioned the difficulty in water management. So could you share your solution with us?**

*Mr. Hung: Firstly, we have only applied SRI in particular fields where we can manage water well. We have met problems where we cannot use pumps and in low areas where we must dig draining canals.*

**11. Mr. Think: Have weeds grown more?**

*Mr. Hung: Yes, weeds have appeared more because of dry condition.*

**12. Mr. Anderholm: How many tons of organic fertilizer have you used for one hectare?**

*Ms. Neary: In Cambodia, we do not weigh fertilizer but we take handcarts as a measuring unit. Fertilizer has been used more in households where it is more available. The average number of handcarts used per hectare is 15 carts (200 kg/cart).*

**13. How many crops are there in Cambodia?**

*Ms. Neary: There is one crop in our target area (Siem Reap Province). For the rest crop, farmers may cultivate or not. If they cultivate, they usually plant watermelons and green peas.*

**14. How changed the yield of rice before and after applying SRI?**

*Ms. Neary: The yield of rice increased from 1-1,5 t/ha to 7 t/ha after applying SRI.*

**15. The highest rate of increased rice yield was 50% as you showed, was there any relationship with the amount of fertilizer?**

*Ms. Neary: No, it is because those people applied 12 principles correctly.*

**16. How about the yield of rice in Hoa Binh province?**

*Mr. Hung: It has increased about 10-12%.*

**17. Mr. Wyler : Which kind of variety, local variety and HYV, got higher yield?**

*Mr. Hung : In general, we have only used HYVs and a few improved rice varieties produced by farmers themselves.*

**18. Mr. Koen : What about the “Nhi uu 838”?**

*Mr. Hung: Farmers did not apply correctly 12 principles so that they couldn't get high yield.*

**19. Mr. Wyler: Could you tell us the specific numbers of the yield before and after SRI application?**

*Mr. Hung: For example, Khang Dan (HYVs) in Mong Hoa commune, Ky Son District: the yield increased from 6.47t/ha to 6.79 t/ha.*

**20. How many crops are there in HB?**

*Mr. Hung: there are two crops.*

**21. Mr. Think: Have you applied exactly the 12 principles or still used chemical fertilizer to get high yield? What about chemical herbicide and pesticide?**

*Mr. Hung: We have only applied a number of principles that were appropriate to the situation of Hoa Binh province. For instance: young seedlings; planting single seedlings; wide and suitable spacing; planting in square pattern; regular drainage; manuring properly; early disease and insect prevention;*

*We have still used chemical fertilizer with muck. And we have also used herbicide because of growth of weeds;*

*Chemicals pesticides have been used with a small quantity.*

## ***2.2. Dialogue between NGO Working Group and International Support Group (ISG)***

- **Ms. Nga from ISG – MARD** gives an introduction about ISG and calls for cooperation from NGO working group (about ISG-MARD, please see at [www.isgmard.org.vn](http://www.isgmard.org.vn)).

- **Ms. Nga:** To learn more about INGO WG to deal with larger areas of policy, and to seek your assistance more through organizing regular meeting with INGO.

- **Ms. Turine:** To have occasions to share information between NGOs and ISG will be helpful for both sides. NGOs will know what ministries need, ISG will have a chance to review the policy and application of policy. Do you need inputs from SANRM working group?

- **Ms. Nga:** We organize technical meetings to make Development policy for farmers and to encourage Rural development at Grassroots level. We would like to seek your knowledge and experiences.

- **Mr. Imai:** Do you have any occasion to talk about province by province, region by region, not sector by sector?

- **Ms. Nga:** we are still wondering, we still intend to start with one sector then invite provinces to join. Handicraft villages for example.

- **Mr. Quoc Anh:** ISG works at national level while most NGOs work at local level. Is there any idea before starting cooperation to avoid top-down approach?

- **Ms. Nga:** ISG was created for sharing information among various stakeholders. We have a 5-year plan for Rural Development and will seek comments for the plan from all stakeholders.

- **Mr. Koen:** ISG can organize workshops and activities for NGO to join in, like disaster working group or contact Foreign Relation Department of MARD to inform NGOs about ISG's meetings/activities.

### 2.3. Discussion about activity plan of 2007 for SANRM WG

Suggestions from participants:

- We need to have a coordinator of sub-groups
- All members, one by one, can make a presentation to share about their strategies and activities.
- We may organize field visits and meetings in project sites so that all participants can visit project sites and share experiences.
- There should be more frequent meetings.
- Information will be shared on websites.

Next meeting: scheduled on 1st June 2007

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#### List of attendance of meeting on 6 April 2007 – SANRM Working Group

No.	Name	Organization	Position	Email
1.	Jon Anderholm	Xun Biosphere Project	Director	<a href="mailto:Xunbio@hotmail.com">Xunbio@hotmail.com</a>
2.	Dau Quoc Anh	Institute of Ecological Economy	Head of International Relation Dept.	<a href="mailto:Dauquocanh@h...">Dauquocanh@h...</a>
3.	Joshua Ringer	Thai Nguyen Farmers Training Centre	Agriculture Extension Specialist	<a href="mailto:Agvn28@yahoo.com">Agvn28@yahoo.com</a>
4.	Letty Espero	Thai Nguyen Farmers Training Centre	Rural Development Specialist	
5.	Johnny Warren	Thai Nguyen Farmers Training Centre		
6.	Junichi Imai	JICA Vietnam	Project Formulation Advisor	<a href="mailto:Imai.junichi@jica.go.jp">Imai.junichi@jica.go.jp</a>
7.	Fumie Hayashi	JICA Vietnam	Local Technical Advisor	<a href="mailto:Hayashi.Fumie@jica.go.jp">Hayashi.Fumie@jica.go.jp</a>
8.	Tomomi Saito	JICA Vietnam	JICA Volunteer	<a href="mailto:To_momi@popo.jp">To_momi@popo.jp</a>
9.	Koji Asada	JICA Vietnam	JICA Volunteer	<a href="mailto:Koubu925asd@jica.go.jp">Koubu925asd@jica.go.jp</a>
10.	Yasmiria Pepa	ISG – MARD	Communication Advisor	<a href="mailto:ypepa@hotmail.com">ypepa@hotmail.com</a>
11.	Nguyen T. Phuong Nga	ISG – MARD	Manager	<a href="mailto:Isgmard@fpt.vn">Isgmard@fpt.vn</a>
12.	Koen Den Brader	ADDA Vietnam	Technical Advisor	<a href="mailto:Koenhuyen@gn...">Koenhuyen@gn...</a>
13.	Nguyen Duc Thinh	CCRD	Project Officer	<a href="mailto:thinnguyenduc@ccrd.org">thinnguyenduc@ccrd.org</a>
14.	Nguyen Thi Chau	VECO	Program Officer	<a href="mailto:chau@veco.org">chau@veco.org</a>

15.	Johan Rock	VECO	SARD Advisor	<a href="mailto:Johan@veco.org">Johan@veco.org</a>
16.	Bernie Wyler	UNDP		<a href="mailto:Bernard.wyler@">Bernard.wyler@</a>
17.	Vu Quang Hung	Tan Lac Department of Plant Protection	Vice Head	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
18.	Dang Thi Kem	Tan Lac Department of Economy	Vice Head	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
19.	Bui Van Thuan	Tan Lac District, Hoa Binh Province	Farmer	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
20.	Bui Van Nia	Tan Lac District, Hoa Binh Province	Farmer	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
21.	Som Neary	JVC Cambodia	SA officer	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
22.	Mayu Ino	JVC Vietnam	Representative	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
23.	Nguyen Thanh Phuong	JVC Vietnam	Project Assistant	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
24.	Nguyen Minh Hien	JVC Vietnam	Intern	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>
25.	Phan Lien Huong	JVC Vietnam	Intern	<a href="mailto:jvchanoi@fpt.vn">jvchanoi@fpt.vn</a>