



Transforming rice value chains: The Sustainable Rice Platform

Dr. Wyn Ellis
Coordinator, Sustainable Rice Platform
UN Environment Asia Pacific



Applying an Integrated Approach:

THE SUSTAINABLE RICE PLATFORM

	Activities	Multi-disciplinary partners	Cross-cutting issues GENDER, HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRIVATE SECTOR
SDG 1 POVERTY	Promoting adoption of pro-poor innovative technologies among rice smallholders to enhance livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 61 institutional members • 10 public sector/research • Inter-governmental • 30 private sector supply chain actors • CSO/CBOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technologies and Standard development (SDG17) • Multi-stakeholder partnerships (SDG17) • Sustainable business practices and reporting” (SDG12) • Hunger (SDG 2.1; 2.2) • Gender equality among rice farmers (SDG 5.1) • Enhance food security and nutrition, focused on smallholders, women farmers (SDG 2.3, 5.1), and agricultural coops/farmers’ networks (2.1,2.2)
SDG 2 HUNGER/FOOD SECURITY	Introducing climate-smart best practice for rice production for food security		
	Ensuring gender empowerment through Rice Sustainability Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand (MOA) 	
SDG 5 GENDER	Collaborating with financial sector to introduce Standards-based financial services for smallholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FairTrade (EU) 	
SDG 12 SCP	Promoting resource-efficient rice production, sustainable procurement and consumer awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mars Food • Olam International 	
SDG 13 CLIMATE	Introduce innovative technologies to mitigate rice sector emissions, while promoting farm-level resilience to CC impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Agri Technologies (Myanmar) 	
SDG 15 BIODIVERSITY	Protecting biodiversity through a systems/landscape approach and through adoption of integrated approaches to pest and nutrient management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF, Helvetas (Pakistan) • FAO, IFC, UN Environment 	



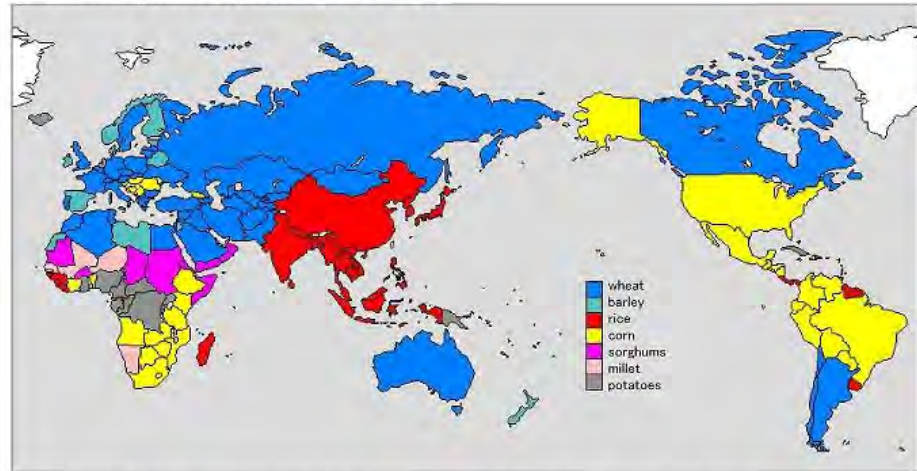
The world eats rice: about 480 m MT per year



- 19% of global per capita caloric intake
- 47% of SE Asia per cap caloric intake
- 29% for all Asia
- Staple diet for 50% of the world
- Asia dominates global population: Africa accounts for 30% of rice export growth since 1990 and is expected to be the next source of pop growth
- Due to its size and cultural appeal rice is not substitutable on a large scale

Source: Olam Rice

The main crops in every country in the world



(note) Grain with the maximum harvested area in every country in the world was shown. (2004)
The United States etc. are the one even if corn is 1st place for export. Barley is the main for fodder.
The staple food of the country is not necessarily shown.

(source) FAOSTAT

Total Population



The size of each territory shows the relative proportion of the world's population living there.



www.worldmapper.org

University of Michigan



Rice: meeting future demand



“For every 1 billion people added to the global population, an additional 100 million tons of rice needs to be produced every year.”

Source: IRRI



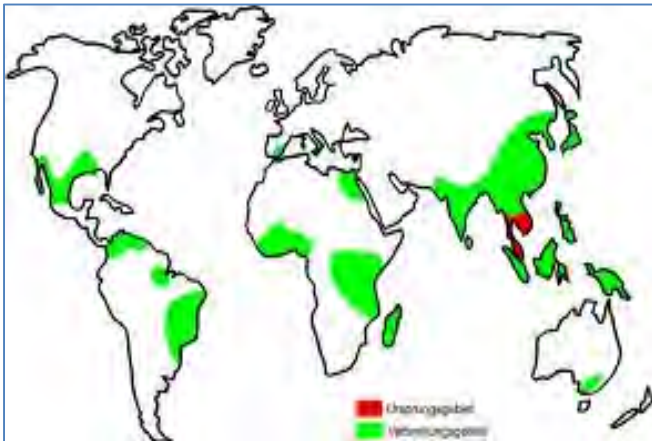
Production challenges: Rising demand, falling productivity



- Slowing growth in production
- Diminishing marginal returns to inputs such as N and P
- Loss of agricultural land (degradation, conversion, urbanization)
- Competition for production factors
- Rising energy and fertilizer prices
- Climate change - 2050 rice yields will decline up to 20% compared with 2000 (IFPRI/ADB, 2009).



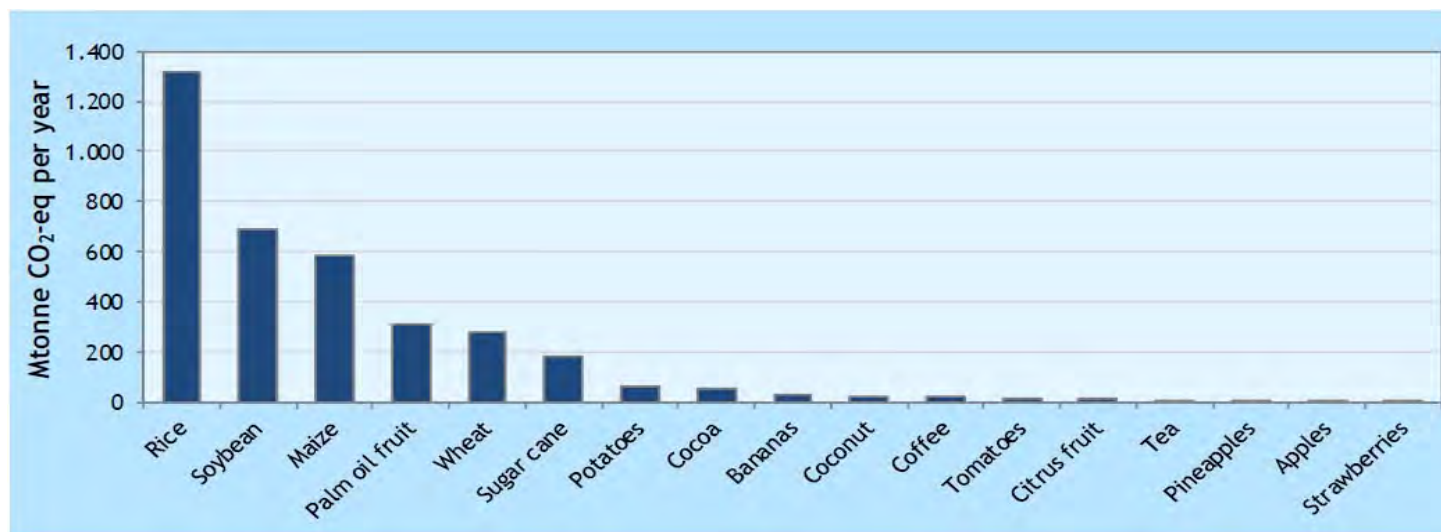
Rice sustainability challenges



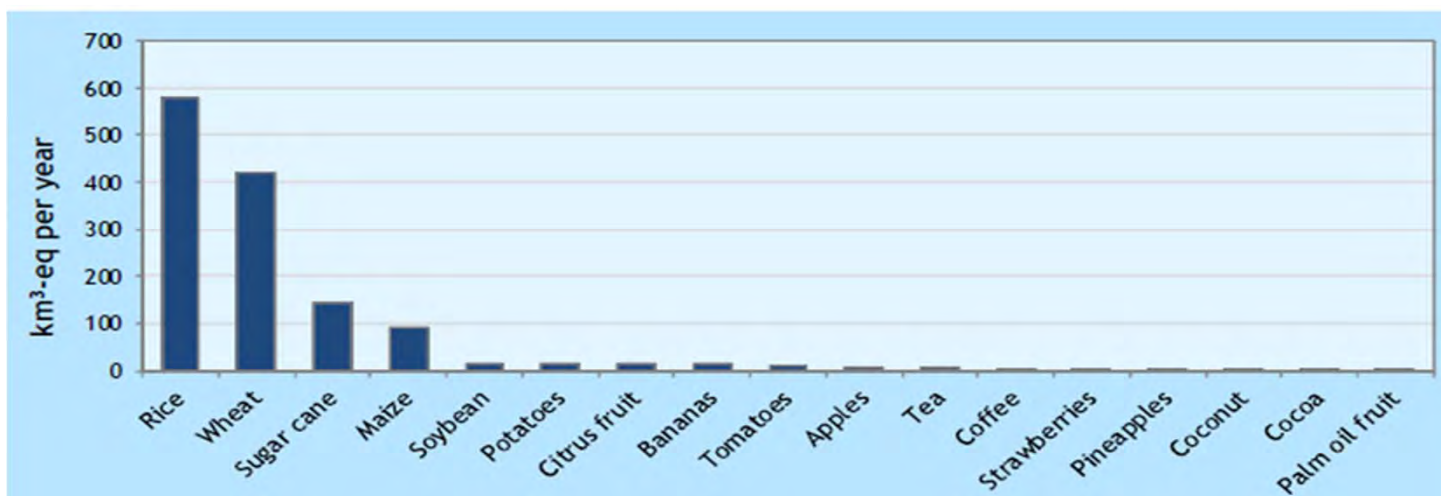
- Resource use efficiency (land, water, agrochemicals, labour);
- GHG emissions (CH_4 , N_2O , CO_2);
- Impacts on ecosystem services;
- Soil impacts (e.g. salinization, arsenic, organic matter);
- Disease impacts (e.g. water-borne pathogens);
- Climate change impacts



Annual global GHG footprint per commodity:



Annual global water scarcity footprint per commodity:



Source: Oxfam, 2016



Pesticide use: 0.4-3.8 kg a.i./ha



Ecological breakdown



BPH outbreaks



Virus diseases



Hopper burn

China, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea, Japan,...



Fertilizer N use: from 25 to >250 kg/ha/season



Too little...



Too much...



The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a lush green rice paddy landscape, showing a mosaic of flooded fields and surrounding vegetation. In the center of the slide, there is a rectangular inset photograph showing two Black-necked Stilts standing in tall green grass. These birds have long, straight black beaks, long red legs, and white bodies with black wings and necks. The text is overlaid on the top right and bottom of the image.

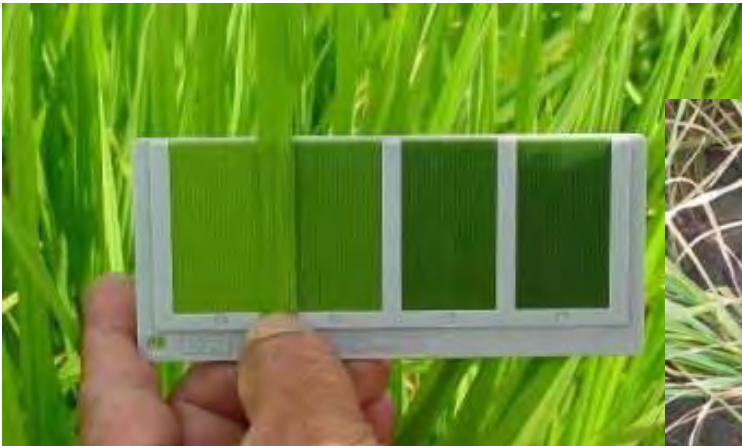
**Rice fields represent 15%
of the world's wetlands**

**Irrigated rice fields are the richest agro-ecosystems for
waterbirds (*van der Weiden et al., 2010*)**

Proven climate-smart technologies



- Site-specific nutrient management (SSNM)
- Alternate wetting and drying (AWD)
- Integrated Crop Management (ICM)
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Resource-Conserving Technologies (RCT)
- ICT- GIS applications



Mobilizing the rice value chain



We need.....

A credible, robust and feasible
'standard' or 'sustainability toolkit'
available for farmers, that serves to
define sustainability in rice and
provide a normative framework for
policymaking

A mechanism for passing benefits
through the value chain and drive
widespread adoption





The Sustainable Rice Platform



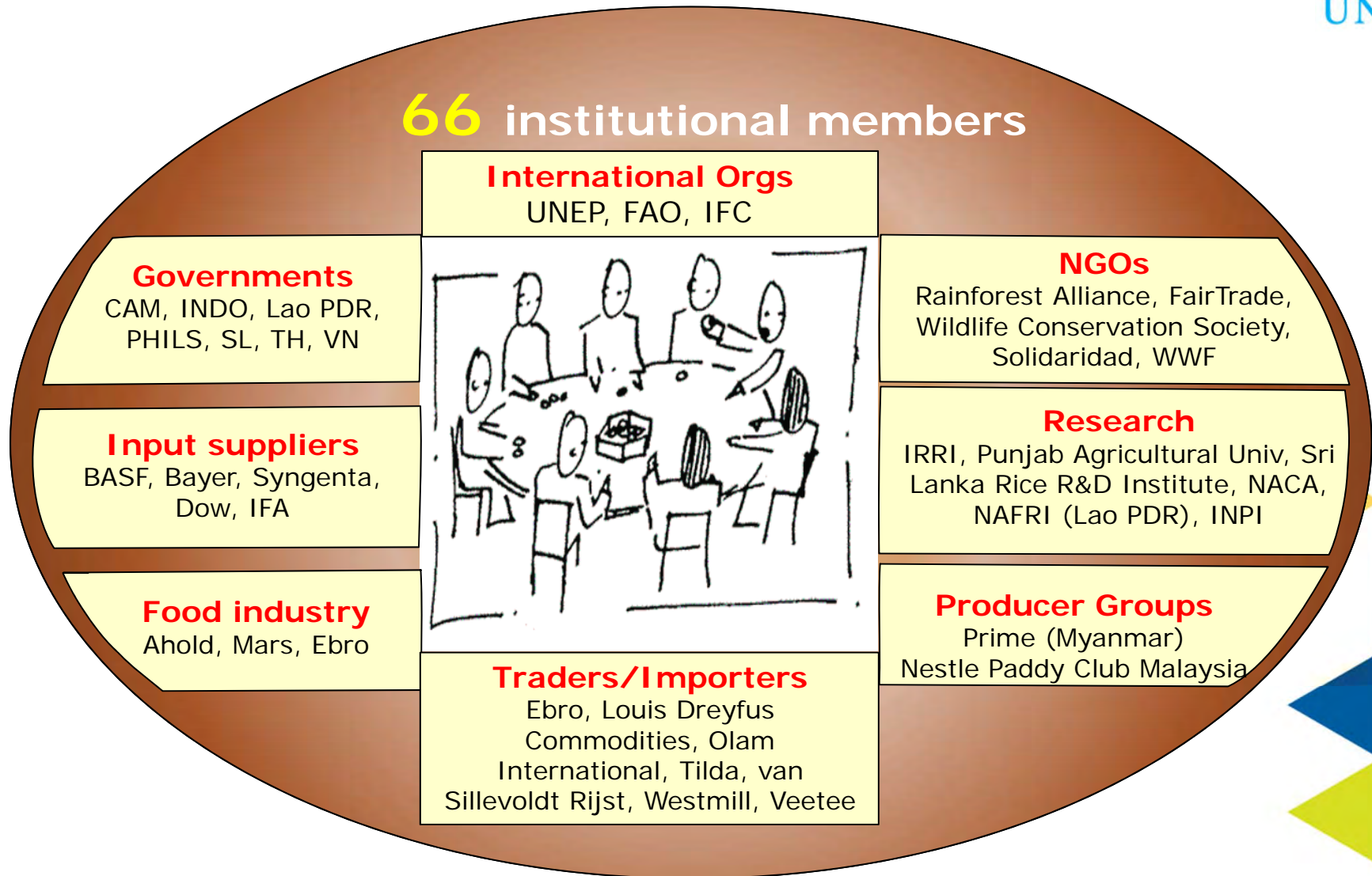
Goal: 1 million farmers adopt climate-smart sustainable best practices within 5 years (2016-2021)



A global multi-stakeholder partnership to drive impact



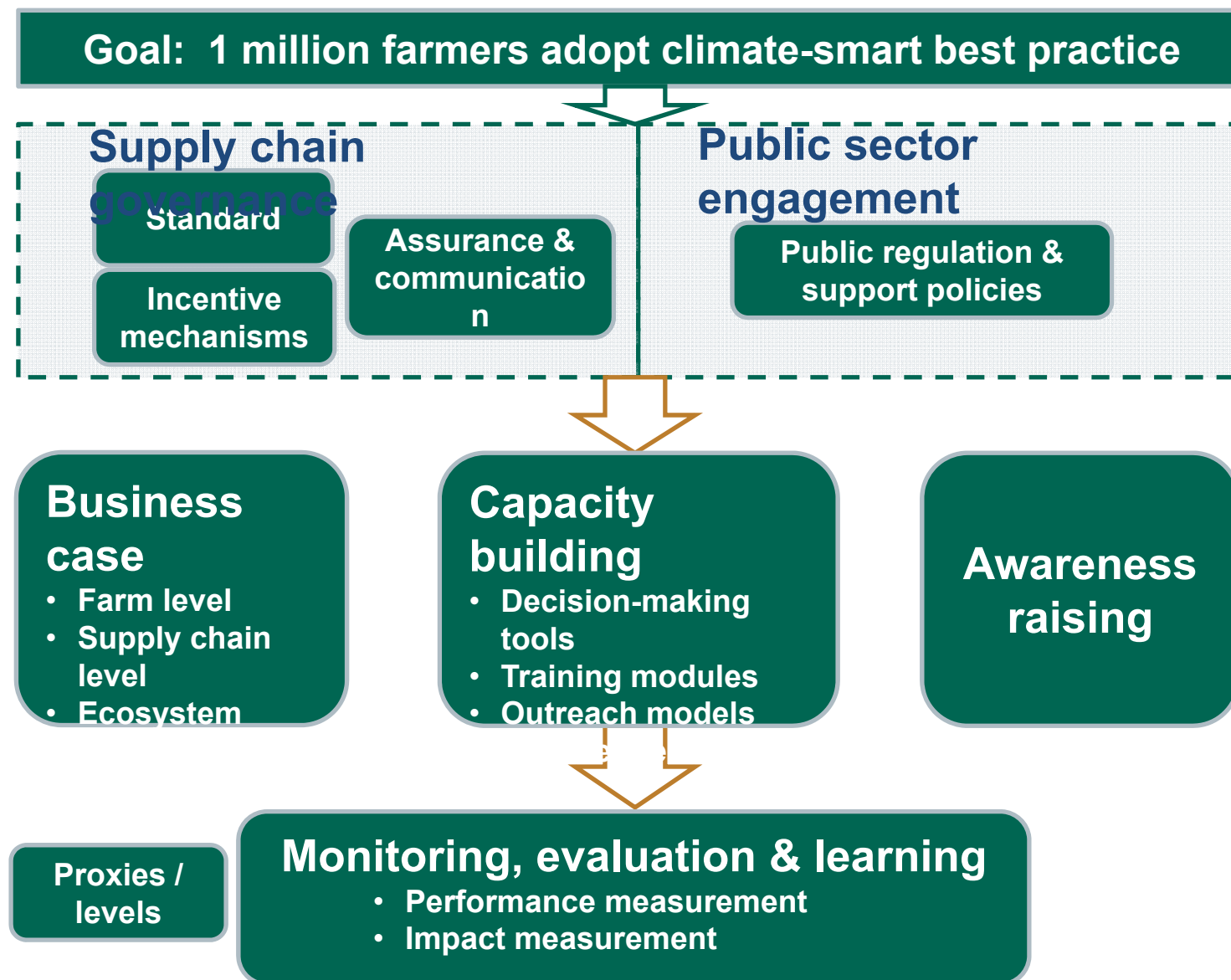
66 institutional members



SRP institutional members



The building blocks...



Driving best practice: the SRP Standard and Performance Indicators



Distribution: Members' Area of SRP website (brochure format also available)

Translation: Vietnamese, Thai, Khmer, French

Supported by SRP data collection and aggregation tools

Communication and Assurance Guidelines for Pilot Phase

Training materials



SRP: World's first rice sustainability standard



The Standard covers the following 8 themes:



Water use



Nutrient management



Pre-planting



Health & safety



Harvest &
post-harvest



Farm management



Labour rights

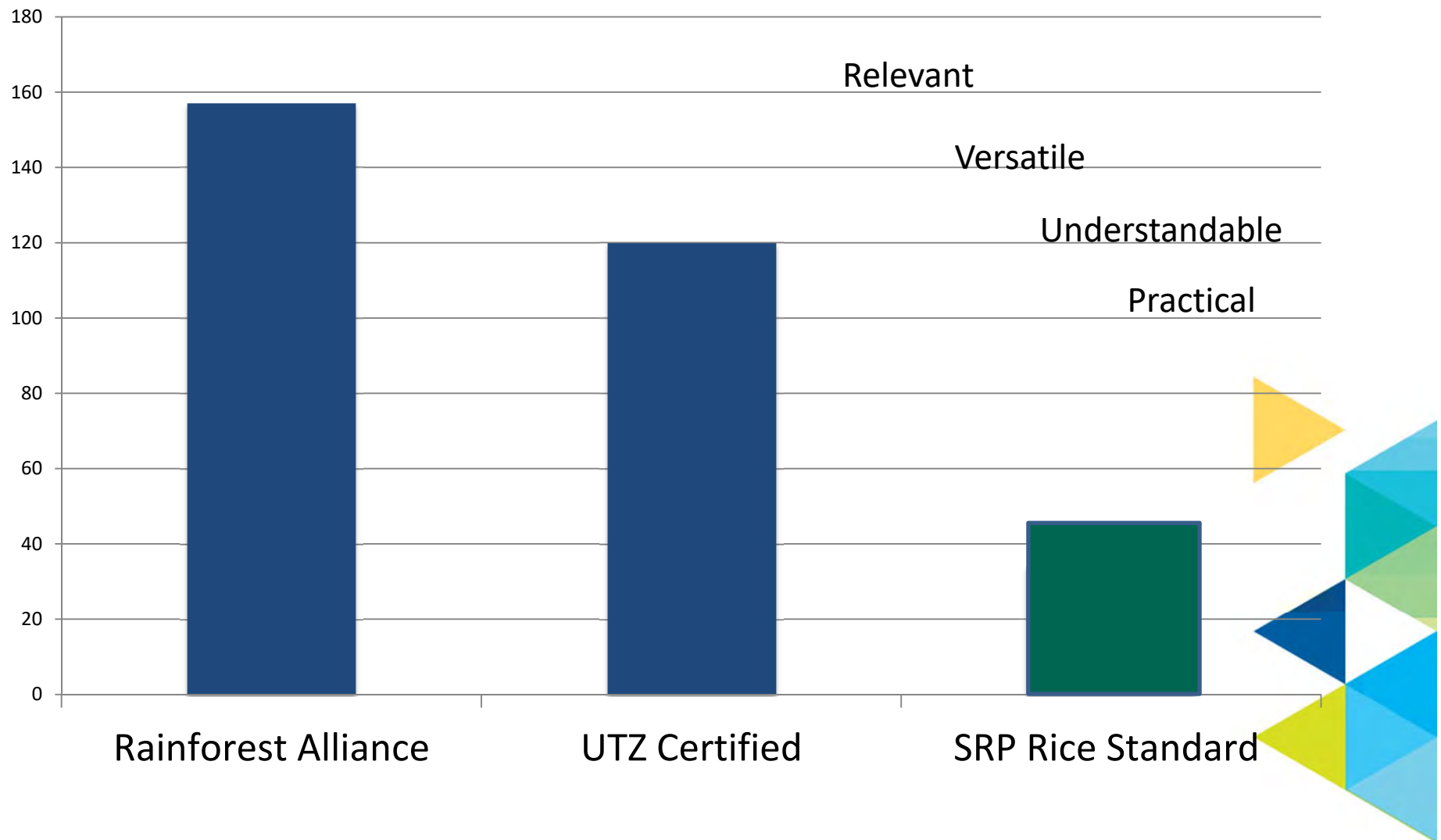


Pest management

Photos: image collection of
the International Rice Research Institute
(IRRI)



A compact standard



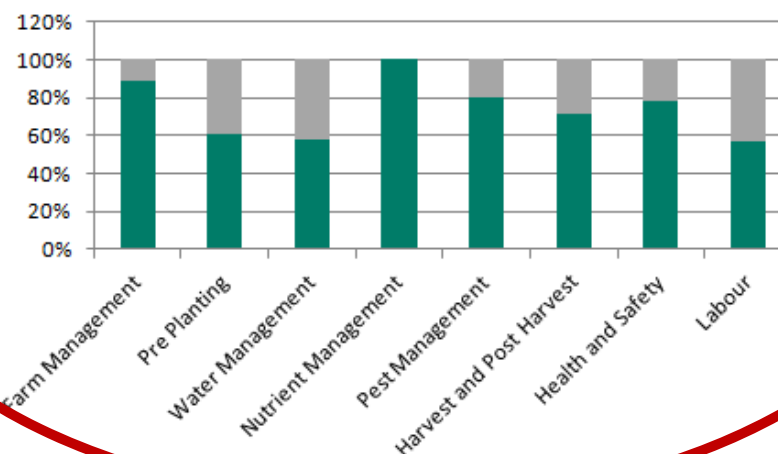
SRP Standard and Indicators:

Measure the sustainability of any rice system

Total score on standard		
Score on standard	73	Points
Missed Thresholds	4	Requirements
Chapter		

= your score

Chapter	Score	Thresholds not met
Farm Management	89%	0
Pre Planting	61%	1
Water Management	58%	0
Nutrient Management	100%	0
Pest Management	80%	1
Harvest and Post Harvest	71%	0
Health and Safety	78%	0
Labour	57%	2



SRP data collection tools

SRP development trajectory



START – UP
2011- 2014

Standard
development

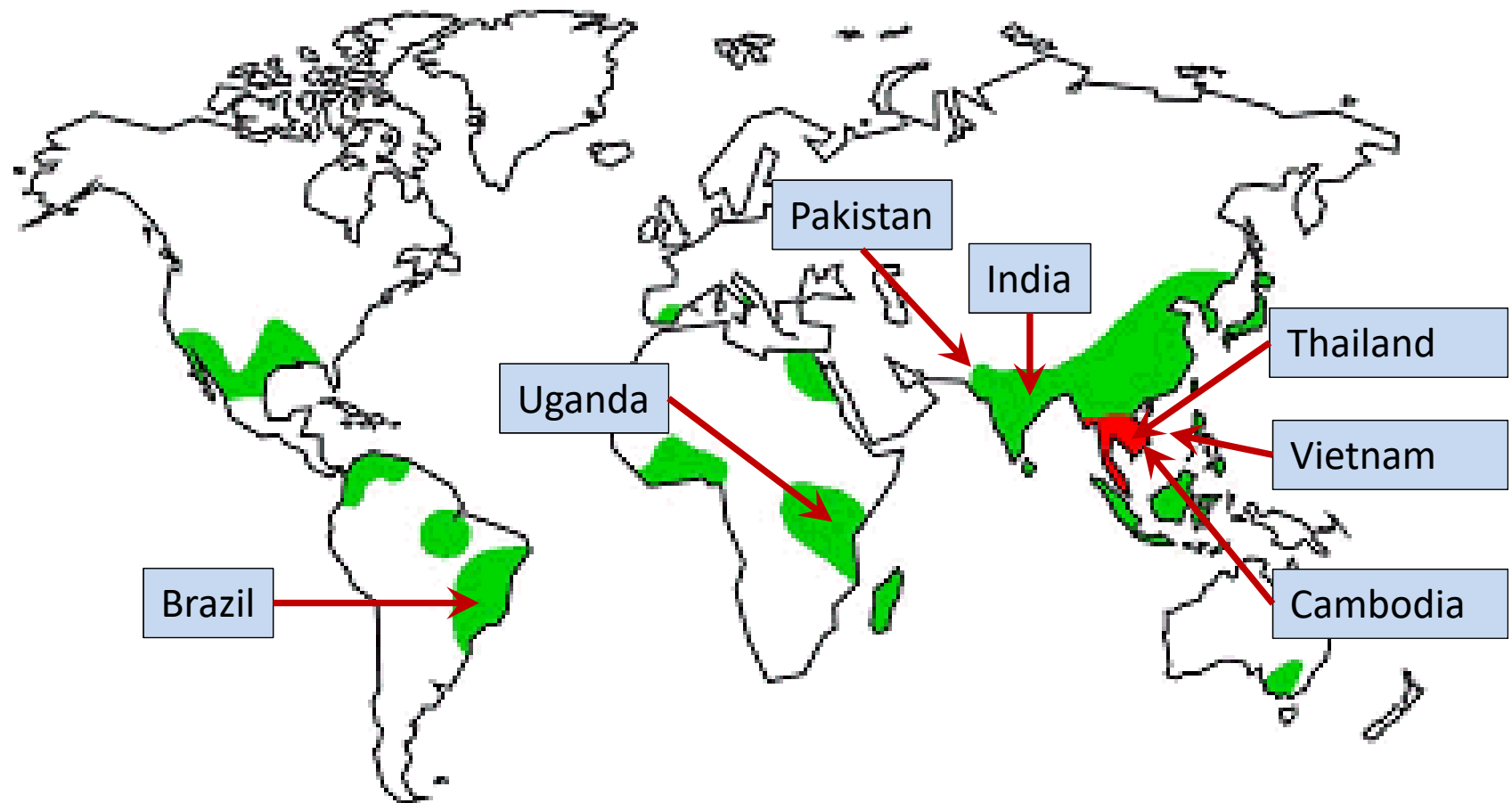
**PROOF OF
CONCEPT**
2015-16

Piloting and
Implementation

UPSCALING
2017 - BEYOND

Roll out-
Assurance
Upscaling
Policy dialogue

Multi-country field validation programme



Total Y1: <5,000 ha

Total Y2: ~20,000 ha

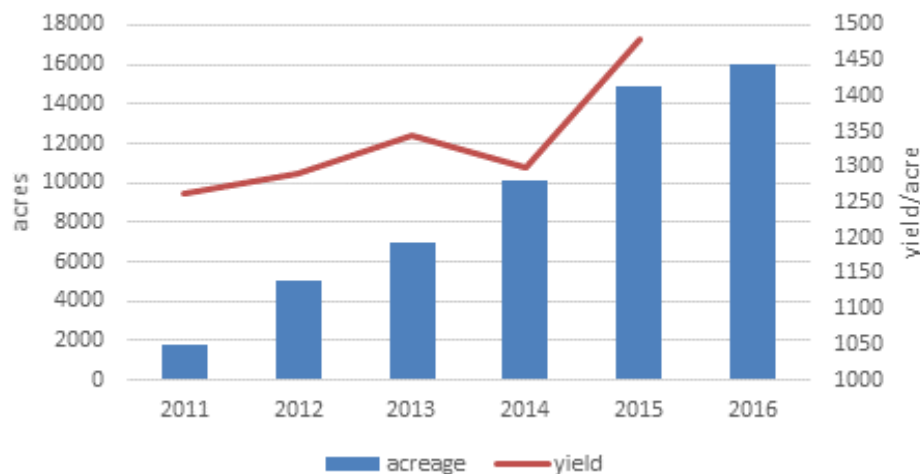
Pilot outcomes to date: Pakistan

Pakistan - sustainable farming



From
0% to 92%
Quality
Compliance

Pakistan - sustainable farming



17%
Yield
Improvement



RICE PARTNERS

BETTER FOOD
TODAY.



A BETTER WORLD
TOMORROW.

Pilot outcomes to date: Vietnam

Economic efficiency within and outside 2016 Summer-Autumn crop (VND)

Category	SRP	Non-SRP
Total expenses/ha	15,784,347	17,344,850
- Seeding	1,836,524	1,664,707
- Soil working	1,571,165	1,500,565
- Water pumping	1,188,360	1,219,327
- Care	1,714,496	1,895,032
- Harvest	1,769,458	1,733,058
- Fertilizer	4,179,950	4,444,967
- Plant protection chemicals	3,524,394	4,887,195
Total revenue/ha	27,255,358	27,103,600
- Productivity (MT/ha)	5,119	5,089
- Selling price (VND/kg)	5,324	5,326
Profit/ha	11,391,009	9,638,506
Cost per kg	3,083	3,408

N = 150 farmers

Source: Loc Troi Group, An Giang, Vietnam





Key messages:

- Transformation of rice value chains will be key to developing a sustainable food system, for which the Standard serves as a foundation
- Proven technologies are available to enhance resource use efficiency and mitigate climate impacts in rice
- Effective incentive mechanisms and farmer outreach are key to adoption of sustainable best practices

However....

- Only a collaborative, scaled-up response can we reach our goal

Get updated



[Facebook.com/SustainableRicePlatform](https://www.facebook.com/SustainableRicePlatform)



[@UNEPAsiaPacific](https://twitter.com/UNEPAsiaPacific);
[#sustainableRice](https://twitter.com/sustainableRice)



www.unep.org/roap
www.sustainableRice.org



Thank you!

