



CALENDAR

2018

**ASIA-PACIFIC
FARMERS' FORUM**

Supported by:

AFOSP

ASEAN Farmers' Organization Support Program

MTCP2

Medium Term Cooperation Program with
Farmers' Organizations in Asia and
the Pacific, Phase II

Strengthening the Capacities of Farmers' Organizations to
Deliver Services and Engage in Policy Work

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ASIA-PACIFIC FARMERS' FORUM

The three years of implementation of the Medium Term Cooperation Program Phase Two (MTCP2) have been very meaningful and fruitful. Farmer Organizations (FOs) have delivered substantial outputs and gathered important lessons. They have identified weaknesses and challenges that need to be addressed to improve project implementation.

MTCP2 aims to strengthen the capacities of farmer organizations in Asia and the Pacific to deliver better, improved and inclusive services to their members and to engage in effective dialogues with governments, thereby making FOs more viable, responsive and accountable to their members, more respected by their partners and have more participation in policy-making and program implementation processes of governments and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) country operations.

The program's primary beneficiaries are smallholder farmers who are current or potential members of participating FOs. Its main participants are 150 National FOs representing 20 million small-scale farming families in 25 countries in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific.

2018 Asia-Pacific Farmers' Forum

This year's calendar features the entries to the Knowledge Management Fair submitted by Farmers' Organization supported by the MTCP2 program from three sub-regions - Southeast Asia, South Asia and Pacific.

2018

January

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January

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NEW YEAR'S DAY

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CAMBODIA:
VICTORY OVER
GENOCIDE DAY

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SRI LANKA: TAMIL
THAI PONGAL
DAY

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INDIAN REPUBLIC
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CAMBODIA: MEAK
BOCHEA DAY

February

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BANGLADESH

Using the Clout of Community Radio: Enhancing Farmers and Fishers Capacity to Improve their Lives and Livelihoods

Char Fasson Upazilla in Bangladesh is an area lagged behind in many socio-economic indicators. One of the major professions in the area is fishing. Among the challenges the fishers have to face is not getting the weather signal on time.

A community radio called Radio Meghna is their source of updates when it comes to the weather. MTCP2 Bangladesh is seizing the opportunity of using the power of this community radio for the development of farmers and fishers in Char Fasson by supporting the radio to broadcast regular programs for farmers and fishers. Through Radio Meghna, residents of Char Fasson are now getting regular weather updates. During any cyclone, the radio broadcasts weather updates for 24 hours.

Another challenge for the fisher people in Char Fasson is their limited knowledge on sustainable fisheries, fishery laws, rights,

and rules on access to the fishing grounds and government services. Because of these, fishermen are exploited by middlemen and influential people in various ways. Fisher people also have limited access to their rights as well as finance and government services. To enhance their capacity in facing such challenges, a regular awareness program on the radio is being broadcasted. Through this radio program, fishers can also directly talk with fishery officers.

Meanwhile, farmers of Char Fasson have to face various issues such as land grabbing, lack of government services, and excessive use of pesticides among others. Knowledge gap and unavailability of linkages among the farmers and different service providers are also serious problems. Radio Meghna broadcasts regular programs focusing on the challenges of the farmers to help them find a way out of these problems. There are also programs where the farmers themselves participate. There are live programs where farmers are able to ask questions directly to the service providers.

Impacts of the effort

- Access to information for farmers and fishers have been ensured
- Linkages among farmers-fishers and service providers have been established
- Farmers-fishers can get regular weather update
- Farmers-fishers are now getting regular information on agriculture and fishing
- Farmers and Fishers are now well informed about various government decision, rules and laws
- Farmers and Fishers can learn about the about the market situation

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February

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INDIA: MAHA SHIVRATRI

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LUNAR NEW YEAR

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LUNAR NEW YEAR

VANUATU: FATHER LINI DAY

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CAMBODIA

Toek Thla Samaki Saving Group

The Toek Thla Samaki saving group in Toek Thla Village, Trapaing Krosaing Commune, Prey Kabas District Takeo Province was established in 2008 with 16 members and a saving capital of \$40. With the support of AFOSP-MTCP2 through the Farmer and Nature Net in Cambodia starting 2014, the group conducted training and support from FNN staff and was able to increase its saving capital to \$125,000 and its membership to 312 members. The provincial department of agriculture in Takeo got interested and invited the committee to give training and the group also got registered as a cooperative. Today, it has 661 members, 397 of which are women, and a saving capital of \$300,000. Members get 1.7% interest on savings every month, loans are provided at 1.9 to 3% interest per month, and depositors get an interest of 12% per year.

“With the profit, the group contributes \$15,000 to the institutional fund, \$2,000 to the social fund, and \$40 to \$80 to the service committees. It also now closes its balance using a computer system.”

— Chhong Sopha, Program Coordinator, FNN

3

March

MON

TUE

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SUN

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INDIA: HOLI

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VANUATU:
CUSTOM CHIEF DAY

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INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY

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INDIA: GUDDI
PADVA

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INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF FORESTS

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WORLD WATER DAY

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INDIA: RAM NAVAMI

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MAUNDY THURSDAY

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GOOD FRIDAY

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April

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甘肃省农业产业联合会
甘肃省农民专业合作社联合会

陇南青田店

CHINA

Development of Gansu Federation of Farmers Cooperatives



With the purpose of earning profits, Gansu Federation of Farmers Cooperatives drives the farmers cooperatives of the province for joint development. It has 23 member cooperatives and more than 2,000 farmer members with the industries covering plantation and cultivation, processing, sale, transport, warehousing and etc.

Since its establishment, the Federation has been active in building a platform for all the member cooperatives and providing diversified services including:

- Opening of Gansu Excellent Fresh Agricultural Products Exhibition Building
- Set up characteristic agricultural product direct-sale shop
- Undertake Gansu Characteristic Agricultural Product Exhibition
- Participate Tajikistan-China Gansu Export Fair
- Establish the provincial agricultural data platform

The Federation organizes special education and training to promote the farmers management capacity and level, regulate their internal management system, enhance their quality control system and supervision mechanism and promote comprehensively the development level of farmers.

To promote the brand image of agricultural products, the Federation assists farmers in trademark registration, brand promotion and brand cultivation, widen continuously the media marketing channel, strengthen the advertisement, model and propagate the brand image of agricultural products and promote the market recognition of the brands by making adequate use of different resources platforms and modern media means.

4

April

MON

TUE

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1 EASTER SUNDAY

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THAILAND:
CHAKRI DAY

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CHINA:
QINGMING FESTIVAL

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SRI LANKA:
INHAL AND TAMIL
NEW YEAR

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THAILAND:
SONGKRAN

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INDIA: AMBEDKAR
JAYANTI & VISHU
LAO NEW YEAR

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KHMWE NEW YEAR

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22 INTERNATIONAL
MOTHER EARTH
DAY

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25 TONGA:
ANZAC DAY

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29 CAMBODIA:
VISAK BOCHEA
DAY
SRI LANKA:
VESAK FULL MOON
POYA DAY

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VIETNAM:
REUNIFICATION
DAY

VIETNAM: HUNG
KINGS

May

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INDIA

For Women Farmers in India, Digital is the Way to Go!

For farmer organization (FOs) in India, one of the key areas of emphasis in the recent years has been the use of technology by grassroots women to increase efficiency and cost effectiveness of last mile operations and to improve delivery.

Towards this, SEWA, in partnership with the private sector, has piloted several innovative mobile based ICT applications. Designed in the local language with particular emphasis on ease of use, these ICT applications have shown significant promise in improving grassroots operations, and have been marked by SEWA for upscaling across Gujarat and other States.

Some of these applications are:

PaySe and mPaise

Peer-to-peer e-wallet payment solutions which have been pilot tested with 10 Savings Groups in the Mehsana District and are now being extended to 50 groups in the second phase

mBachat

A Mobile Application for Savings Collection - till date 1500+ SHGs (10,000+ members) are boarded on mBachat installed on mobile phones and tablets. Grassroots leaders are carrying tablets installed with mBachat to the villages and feeding members' savings information real time. By using mBachat, cost (30%-40%), efforts and time (50%) have been reduced and productivity has increased

SEWA Membership Management System (MMS)

SEWA is developing and implementing a database management system in order to collect its members' basic profile and financial details. Till date 1400,000+ unique ids have been assigned and forms are printed in 4 languages to collect and complete the members' profile collection

Rudi Sandesha Vyavhar (RSV) Mobile Application

Rudi Sandesha Vyavhar mobile application provides accurate timely information to farmers and grants women producers with an affordable, simple-to-use, easily accessible mobile tool, which enables them to place orders for new stock, keep track of their inventory and sales, and even run credit outstanding reports on their customers—all using just their basic feature phones.

Besides the tangible impact on operational efficiency, the use of these digital applications by grassroots women makes them familiar and comfortable with technology and readies them for other mobile based banking solutions

Awareness of digital payment platforms, capacity building training and practical application of digital skills during their day to day dealings, created a comfort level with digitization for all our members. Hence, during the November 2016 switch from 'cash to cashless' a majority of our members could manage the transition smoothly, calmly and skillfully—with just a little crucial intervention from SEWA.

5

May

MON

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1 INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY

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3 CAMBODIA: ROYAL PLOWING CEREMONY

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10 THAILAND: PLOUGHING FESTIVAL

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KING NORODOM SIHAMONI'S BIRTHDAY

14 NEPALI NEW YEAR

15 MOTHER'S DAY

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20 TIMOR LESTE: INDEPENDENCE RESTORATION DAY

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22 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF BIODIVERSITY

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29 THAILAND: VESAK DAY

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June

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INDONESIA

Improved Coffee Production

The Sridonoretno Farmers' Association is getting support from AFOSP-MTCP2 on agri enterprise development for their robusta coffee production. It includes capacity building on climate resilient coffee cultivation through natural farming and natural pest management practices, harvesting method that promotes red cherry picking, post harvest processing through different methods for coffee beans, setting up off collective processing units and pre-cooperative, and networking with coffee shops in Malang, Malang City and Batu City as alternative markets. As a result, coffee production increased from 0.5 kg to 1.5 kg green beans per tree, fungi disease is decreased, coffee quality is improved, farmers' margin is increased from IDR 22,000 to IDR 32,000 per kilo of green beans (while price at the cooperative level is IDR 37,000 per kilo), and participation of women and youth is also improved. Women are mainly in charge of coffee bean sorting, while the youth work on quality control, marketing and cooperative development.

"Through the training that we received, we are now able to rate the quality of our coffee, which now yield up to 90% red cherry and deemed as enough to proceed to coffee beans processing."

— Eko Yudi Sukrianto, Leader of Sridonoretno Association

"We are now aware of the importance for coffee farmers to practice red cherry picking and good post-harvest processing,"

— Siadi, Head of Quality Control for Sridonoretno Association of Dampit Coffee Farmers

6

June

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SAMOAN INDEPENDENCE DAY
INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY

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TONGA: EMANCIPATION DAY

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

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SOLOMON ISLANDS: QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

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PNG: QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

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PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY

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16

CHINA: DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

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ID UL-FITR

FATHER'S DAY

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QUEEN NORODOM MONINEATH SIHANOUK'S BIRTHDAY

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SRI LANKA: POSON FULL MOON POYA DAY

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FIJI: NATIONAL SPORTS AND WELLNESS DAY

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ສູດຍອດ ຊາວກະສິກອນ ຂອງ LFN

LAOS

Directory of Farmer Expert

The Directory of Farmer Expert documents the human resources of the Lao Farmer Network (LFN). The directory contains the profiles of farmer experts chosen by LFN's member organisations. It may serve as a reference for farmer-to-farmer learning, to market the network, and to provide services.

The directory provides the following information about the farmer experts:

- Photo of the farmer
- Name and contact information
- Name of the farmer organisation
- Responsibility in the organisation
- Farming/training experiences
- Area of expertise

The directory is available in printed copy and online on Google Maps. In the printed version, the farmers are categorized under their location or expertise. All profiles are arranged alphabetically. The online can be accessed at <http://laofarmers.net/members/>.

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July

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TONGA: KING TUPOU VI'S BIRTHDAY

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SOLOMON ISLANDS: INDEPENDENCE DAY

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INDIA: RATH YATRA

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PNG: REMEMBRANCE DAY

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THAILAND: ASALHA PUJA DAY

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THAILAND: KING'S BIRTHDAY

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VANUATU: INDEPENDENCE DAY

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August

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MYANMAR

A Small Farmer with Big Dreams



Saw Htoo Baw, 33, is a farmer from Tha Bite Kone village, Hle Gu Township in Myanmar. In 2015, he expressed to the Agricultural Farmer Federation of Myanmar (AFFM) his concern about the increasing use of synthetic and chemical inputs

amongst farmers in this region. He knows that these practices were damaging the environment, destroying soil structure and also an increasing financial burden on the farmers. “I see the life of the farmers in our area is so poor and miserable. They are struggling just for their day to day needs. I would like to promote their level of living,” he said.

Saw Htoo Baw was aware that returning to natural traditional farming was the long term sustainable solution. The AFFM team recognised his potential and sent him for an intensive training program at NEED-Myanmar, an Eco Village Farm School.

After graduating in March 2016, Saw Htoo Baw immediately worked on his family land that largely consists of rice paddy. He also discussed his plans with 5 neighbouring farmers, and 4 of them adopted a certain SRI technique in the first year. Saw Htoo Baw has trained multiple farmer groups, even beyond his village.

Even with the modest changes, Saw Htoo Baw earned a reasonably higher income than he normally would, though the production output did not increase much. Other farmers were also happy with the success of their trials.

Saw Htoo Baw also introduced animal systems to his farm be able to achieve the goal of being a fully organic and natural. He feels that due to intensive chemical farming, a lot of the beneficial predators disappeared with a huge increase in crop damaging pests like snails.

He is also using techniques like no-till beds to grow organic vegetables during the winter (non-rainy season). He is sharing these techniques like using rice husks, biochar, etc. with other farmers as well to encourage their participation and improving their off season yield.

Saw Htoo Baw also encourages the farmers to begin maintaining records of their activities (including financial) so that they can reflect and understand their progress and position as compared to other years and techniques.

Seeing his success, he is further motivated to continue improving and using these natural techniques. He feels that small changes on the community level like his should be supported by the government through education.

According to Saw Htoo Baw, his next challenge is that of marketing and presenting the produce to consumers. The farm to customer logistics is important to ensure that more farmers can adopt and succeed in natural farming, otherwise farmers will not have the final incentive to make the change to alternative farming.

8

August

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THAILAND:
MOTHER'S DAY

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15 INDIAN
INDEPENDENCE
DAY

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17 INDONESIAN
INDEPENDENCE
DAY
INDIA: NAVROZ

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21 ID-UL-ADHA

22 BAKARI ID

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24 25 INDIA: ONAM

26 PNG: NATIONAL
REPENTANCE DAY
INDIA: RAKSHA
BANDHAN

27 PHILIPPINE
NATIONAL HEROES'
DAY
PNG: NATIONAL
REPENTANCE
HOLIDAY

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September

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NEPAL

Formation of National Farmers' Commission



Through the lobbying and policy intervention of MTCP2 Nepal and Nepalese Farmers organizations, the Government of Nepal formed the **National Farmers Commission (NFC)** on 23 January 2017. The commission was formed as per National Farmers Commission and Operation Order – 2073 BS. It was the major demand of the National Peasants' Coalition (NPC) for a long time.

The NPC is MTCP2 Nepal Farmer Organizations' national platform. It includes 14 national level farmer's organizations (FOs) representing over millions of small-scale farming families and marginal farmers from all over the country.

In the process of forming the Agriculture Development Strategy, the working group agreed to form an executive farmer commission with the acceptance of NPC. Furthermore, MTCP2 Nepal successfully pressured the government and held a bilateral meeting with agriculture Ministers and Prime Minister to form the farmers' commission. After a round of lobby and policy intervention, the government agreed to form the commission. Previously, the government planned to form a commission excluding farmers and including bureaucrats and so-called experts only, but after MTCP2 Nepal's lobbying, the farmers' commission was finally formed with the strong representation of farmers from the NPC.

Chitra Bahadur Shrestha was appointed as the Chairperson of the Farmers' Commission. Mr. Shrestha is the Coordinator of National Peasants Coalition and Chairperson of All Nepal Peasants Federation Revolutionary Center. There are other two representatives from MTCP2 Nepal FOs National Platform appointed as members of the commission.

The Farmers' Commission executes programs on management of the market for agro-products, operation of agro-products processing plants, establishment of research centres for boosting agricultural production and agriculture education.

The primary function of NFC is to study and analyse every aspect of Nepal's agriculture sector and give suggestions to the government on required agriculture policies, laws and programmes. NFC is also responsible to boost commercial farming in the country and recommend the government on necessary measures to achieve agricultural targets and goals.

The NFC is also mandated to crosscheck whether or not the current agricultural subsidies being doled out are reaching actual farmers and submit a report on it to the Ministry of Agriculture Development. NFC also has to work on ways to increase access of farmers to the market, increase their technological awareness, and protect their rights and interests.

9

September

MON

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VIETNAM: NATIONAL DAY

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VIETNAM NATIONAL DAY

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FIJI: CONSTITUTION DAY

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INDIA: JANMASHTAMI

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ISLAMIC NEW YEAR

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INDIA: GANESH CHATURTHI

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PNG INDEPENDENCE DAY
INT'L DAY FOR THE PRESEVERATION OF THE OZONE LAYER

17

SAMOA: PRINCE TUPOTA-'ULUKALA'S BIRTHDAY

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NEPALI CONSTITUTION DAY

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INDIA: MUHARRAM

22

CHINA: MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

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CAMBODIA: CONSTITUTIONAL DAY

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October

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA PNG Solar Rice Mill Project

Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Julie Bishop and Honorable Vice Minister Senator Concetta Ferrivantti-Wells, Minister for Development for the Pacific, officially launched the Solar Rice Mill Project on 9 March 2017 in Lae, PNG in partnership with PIFON's member-PNG Women in Agriculture (PNG WiA).

The "Solar Rice Mill Project" is a (DFAT) PNG Incentive fund co-funded by PNG National Agriculture Research Institute (NARI) and TRUKAI Rice Industries who is not only a major rice distributor in PNG but also a major private sector funder & sponsor of PNG WIA. The project is in support of women in solar rice milling in PNG with PNG WiA being the recipient of 80 solar rice mills with a value of K2.5 million (AU\$2 million).

The equipment is built to specifications to support rural women in PNG who grow rice but cannot mill given there is no electricity, and solar power is the only alternative. Cassava, taro, banana, corn and sweet potato flour is also produced via the use of these solar mills.

The solar power energy produced now enables rural women in PNG to charge their mobile phones, have light at night, and even enjoy the luxury of using a fan and watching movies.



PIFON member, Papua New Guinea Women in Agriculture Development Foundation (PNG WiA) has also begun a program to promote the use of solar powered agro processing machines by its rural members. The machines being promoted serve a number of functions including rice polisher, corn huller, coconut scraper, hammer mill and cassava grater.

An initial training was conducted with funding from PIFON's MTCP II project for 34 participants on 19 April 2017 in Mutzing in the Markham valley of the Morobe Province in PNG. The farmers involved in the training have gained a greater understanding on the technology and how it can be utilised to reduce labour hours and increase food preservation options for rural families.

10

October

MON

TUE

WED

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SUN

1

CHINESE NATIONAL DAY

2

INDIA: GANDHI JAYANTI

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VANUATU: CONSTITUTIONAL DAY

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INDIA: NAVRATRIES
CAMBODIA: PCHUM BEN DAY

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SAMOA: LOTU-A-TAMAITI

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FIJI DAY

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THAILAND: KING RAMA 9TH DAY

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15

INT'L DAY OF RURAL WOMEN
CAMBODIA: COMMEMORATION DAY OF KING'S FATHER

16

17

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INDIAN FESTIVAL

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INDIA: DUSHEHRA

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CAMBODIA: PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT'S DAY
THAILAND: KING RAMA 5TH DAY

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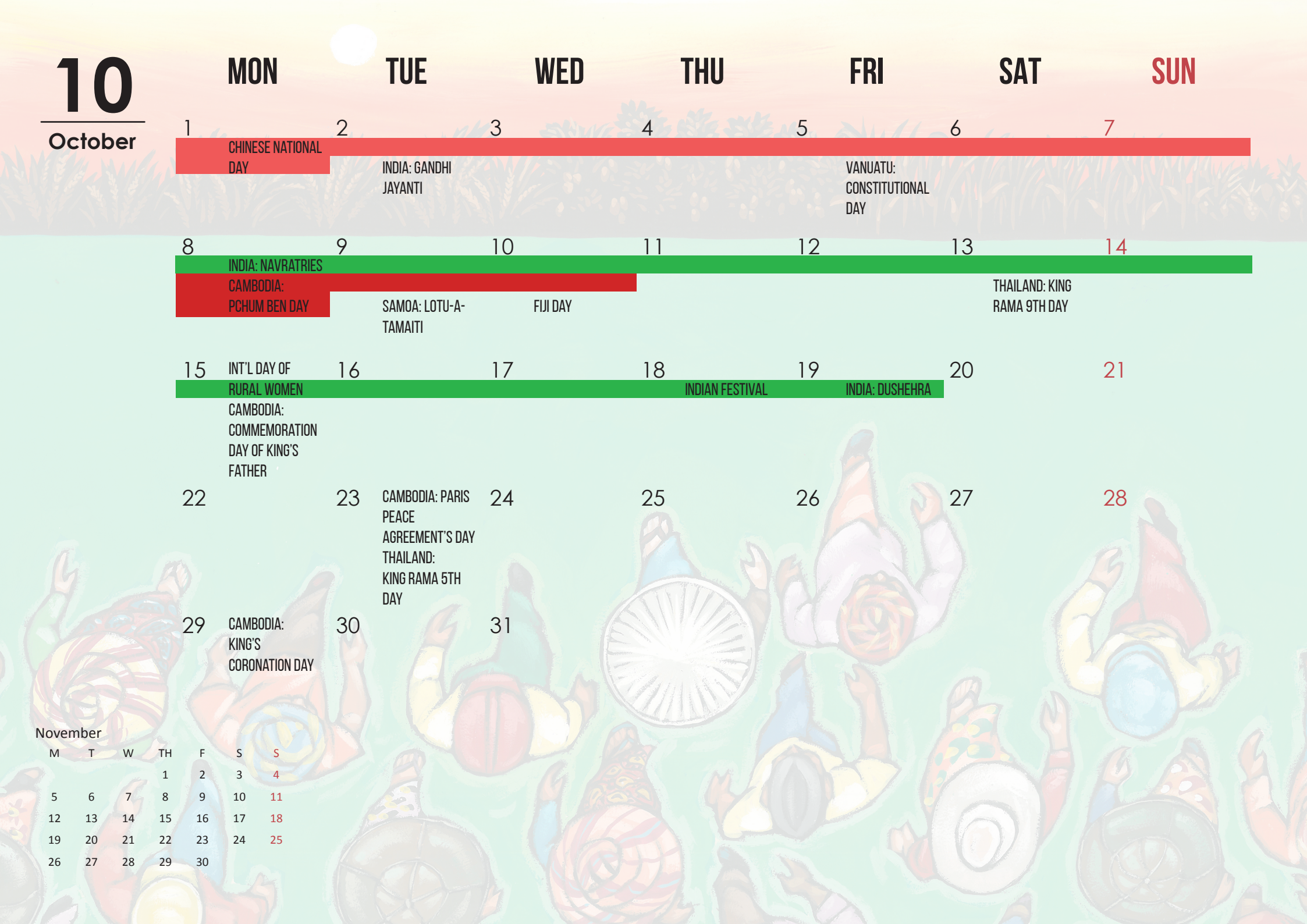
CAMBODIA: KING'S CORONATION DAY

30

31

November

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PHILIPPINES

Coco-fiber Processing Facility

In the small village of Fabrica, in the town of San Vicente, Camarines Norte, many people rely on coconut farming for their livelihood. The province of Camarines Norte in Bicol largely depends on agriculture, with coconut as one of its main products. Historically, the Bicol Region is among the top producers of coconuts in the Philippines.

The members of Fabrica Small Coconut Farmers Organization (FSCFO) were previously involved in copra production. In 2015, they were introduced to coco-fiber production.

On June 2016, the Coco-Fiber Processing Facility, which processes coconut husks into dry fiber or coco peats, was established at Barangay Fabrica. The facility can produce 1,000 kilograms of dried coco-fiber per day, which is directly purchased by Pilipinas Eco Fiber Corporation.

The members of FSCFO sell their coconut husks to the facility and at the same time, provide twinning work in the facility. Currently, the Coco-Fiber Processing Facility employs 14 – 18 workers, depending on the production needs.



The facility has the following equipment:

- Conveyor
- Decorticating machine
- Bailing machine
- Screening machine
- Twining equipment

The equipment for the processing facility and the capacity building for the workers and members of FSCFO was provided by Pilipinas Eco Fiber, through the facilitation of the Federation of Coconut Farmers and Farm Workers Association for Progress (FECOFWA) formerly NIUGAN. The FSCFO, which has 55 members at present, is a local chapter organization of FECOFWA.

The local government of Barangay Fabrica also supports the processing facility by providing it with resources from the agricultural development fund of the barangay.

Currently, the challenges being addressed by FSCFO in their coco-fiber production is the cost of electricity, road access in transporting coconut husks to the facility, and a more efficient production plan for their facility.

11

November

MON

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INDIAN FESTIVAL

TONGA: NATIONAL DAY

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INDIA: DIWALI

INDIA: GUJARATI NEW YEAR

BHAIDUJ CAMBODIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

FESTIVAL

TONGA: NATIONAL DAY HOLIDAY

SRI LANKA: DEEPAVALI

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

WORLD FOOD DAY

TL: NATIONAL YOUTH DAY

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

FIJI: PROPHET MOHAMMED'S BIRTHDAY

ID E MILAD

CAMBODIA: WATER FESTIVAL CEREMONY

INDIA: GURU NANAK JAYANTI

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TL: INDEPENDENCE DAY

VANUATU: UNITY DAY

PH: BONIFACIO DAY

December

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SRI LANKA

Preserving Traditional Seeds Through Seeds Banks in Udalumada Village



Sri Lanka is one of the first countries that follow the Green Revolution methods in agriculture since the beginning of 1970s. The successive governments came into power and the Ministry and Department of Agriculture in particular gave their full blessings for the implementation of these methods. Hence by now, the traditional ways of farming have already disappeared to a large extent, and the remaining practices are fast diminishing.

The government aggravates the problem by issuing chemical fertilizer to the farmers with a huge portion of subsidy, which stands for 09/10 of the real price. As a result of implementing the whole package of “green revolution” by the government, the local and traditional seeds were replaced by hybrid seeds, which could be planted only once. Some of the farmers had realized that this was a trap as the whole agriculture had to depend on the exported seeds, which have to be followed by the excessive usage of chemical fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides.

With the support of MONLAR, the NIA in Sri Lanka, a “Seed Caravan” was organized in order to make the farmers and general public aware and sensitize on the “seed problem” that the country is facing.

The low-input, climate, and pest resistant local seeds are fast disappearing and replaced by hybrid seeds imported mostly from Malaysia. The farmers now use to ‘Malaysian seeds’ that are high-input varieties. Most of the plant that comes from the local varieties are medicinal plants which are used for making Ayurvedic medicines. However, the substitute plants from the Malaysian seeds do not have the medicinal value and the quality of the local and traditional seeds.

The farmers who are in the MTCP program decided to act in order to protect the traditional and local seeds despite the threat that prevents the farmers in collecting, preserving, multiplying, and sharing seeds under the proposed Seed Act which faced massive protests from farmer organizations (FOs). Lanka Farmer’s Forum (LFF), initiated by the MTCP program, encourages the farmer organizations to collect, preserve and multiply the local seeds.

FOs in Udalumada village have already started “Seeds Banks”, through which they share the local and traditional seeds among the members of FOs. So far, the collecting, exchanging, multiplying of traditional seed paddy and beans is successful. The system is developed so that the FOs and farmers are able to provide traditional seed paddy to any farmer who is interested in growing them.

12

December

MON

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THU

FRI

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SUN

3

TONGA: KING TUPOU I HOLIDAY

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THAILAND: FATHER'S DAY

6

WORLD SOIL DAY

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TL: MEMORIAL DAY

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10

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

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THAILAND: CONSTITUTION DAY

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INDIA: FARMERS DAY

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CHRISTMAS DAY

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VANUATU: FAMILY DAY
PACIFIC: BOXING DAY
SOLOMON ISLANDS: NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING

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2019 January

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VIETNAM

Cooperation between Ha Tinh Farmers' Union and provincial IFAD

In the cooperation framework between Viet Nam Farmers' Union (VNFU) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Ha Tinh provincial Farmers' Union and provincial IFAD signed the Agreement "Establishing partnership of cooperation on the implementation of activities under the design of provincial IFAD project" (Sustainable Rural Development for the Poor Project in Ha Tinh province- SRDP) on February 21, 2014 in order to implement general missions on the development of agriculture, farmers and rural areas.

Some of the activities of Ha Tinh FU in cooperation with provincial IFAD:

- Promoting enterprises with potential investment in the agricultural sector in the areas of the project according to PPP model
- Coordinating to organize training courses
- Coordinating to organize and make demonstration of agricultural development of climate change adaptation and financial feasibility
- Supporting to develop collective economic forms
- Supporting loans for production of models from sources: Supporting Fund for Farmers of Ha Tinh FU, Agricultural bank, Policy bank

The collaboration between Ha Tinh FU and IFAD resulted to the following:

- Establishment of models of agricultural production chain with the participation of actors, especially "role of state management"
- Change in some agricultural and rural support policies in the province
- Loan policies: agricultural bank; Policy bank; the Supporting Fund for Farmers of Ha Tinh FU has gone along with the models for borrowing
- Vocational training: the method changed from theory to practice

The impacts on policies, methods and form of vocational training, show that the Ha Tinh FU activities that were better supported lead to the development of agricultural production chain, creating both sustainability on the economy, harmony in the community, and benefits for the environment.

