

Postharvest situation

Vietnam is one of Asia's leading rice exporters. However, high postharvest (PH) losses still affect the rice sector. These are caused by delays in operations because of labor shortage, limited mechanization of harvesting and drying, poor storage facilities, and fragmented marketing sector. Improved PH technologies are available but they do not easily reach the farmers.

Goals

- Improve farmers' incomes through better PH management and marketing
- Contribute to global food security by reducing losses along the rice PH chain

Building on previous experiences

The project builds on the experiences of previous and ongoing collaborative postharvest projects—e.g. the Postproduction Workgroup of the Irrigated Rice Research Consortium (IRRC) project on adapting and evaluating new technologies; the ADB-JFPR 9036: "Improving poor farmers' livelihood through improved postharvest management" for technology verification in pilot villages; and the IRRC–An Giang outreach program for scaling out of technologies.

Milestones

- Optimized the dryer components and conducted adaptive research on an improved rice husk furnace (2004-08)
- Conducted activities related to laser leveling, adaptation to local tractors, demonstrations and pilot testing (2004-08)
- Piloted PH technologies in two villages each in Nam Dinh and in Long An Provinces (2005-08)
- Conducted a participatory impact pathway analysis (PIPA) for Vietnam (April 2009)
- Initiated a national Learning Alliance (April 2009)
- Conducted regional-based PIPAs (August 2009)

Project regions and major partnerships

The activities are coordinated by Nong Lam University. Five PH institutions led the implementation in five regions of Vietnam because of the diverse rice production and PH systems in various parts of the country.

Location	Lead institutions*
Red River Delta and Thanh Hoa Province	VIAEP, HAU
From Nghe An to Binh Dinh Province	HUAF
From Phu Yen to Southeastern provinces and Gia Lai and DakLak	NLU
Provinces of the Mekong Delta north of Hau-Giang River	SIAEP
Provinces of the Mekong Delta south of Hau-Giang River	CTU

* For abbreviations, see back page.

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Key project components

Technology options

New technologies such as hermetic storage and laser leveling have been verified with first adopter users in Vietnam. Others, like flat bed dryers and combine harvesters have been developed in Vietnam and are already being used by many farmers and contractors. Based on the identified needs, some of these technologies are applied either individually or in combination.



Cutting cost by using machines



Minimizing losses by providing more technology options for PH management



Storing seeds safely using hermetic storage

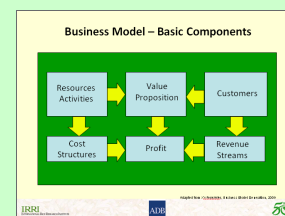
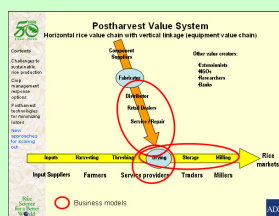
Facilitating a multi-stakeholder platform

The Learning Alliance concept is a social learning platform formed to identify, share, reflect, and adapt good PH practices. The PH Learning Alliance includes key PH stakeholders from the public and private sectors.



Business model development

To ensure faster technology uptake and sustainability, business models are being developed for PH technology users.



Working along the value chain... with suitable business models

Ongoing activities

- Identification of successful business models as demonstration sites
- Development and piloting of business models for PH technologies
- Capacity building for farmer intermediaries
- Adaptive research to adapt PH technologies to local conditions

Priority projects

- Pilot testing of business models
- Capacity building at pilot sites
- Continue technology adaptation and pilot testing
- Facilitate Learning Alliance meetings



ADB – IRRI Postharvest Project
 Addressing the Pre- and Postharvest Challenges of the Rice Supply Chain



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
 Confédération suisse
 Confederazione Svizzera
 Confederaziun svizra
 Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

IRRC Postproduction Workgroup (PPWG)

Abbreviations:

CTU	Can Tho University
HAU	Hanoi Agricultural University
HUAF	Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry
NLU	Nong Lam University, Ho Chi Minh City
SIAEP	Southern Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Postharvest Technology
VIAEP	Vietnam Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Postharvest Technology