PROMOTION OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE BASED CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENT AND ORGANIC FARMING PRACTICES IN THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINOUS REGION OF VIETNAM

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ABOUT ADC

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- Established in 1991
- Working areas:
  - Livelihood and food security
  - Natural resource management
  - Climate change adaptation
  - Rights and voices for the poor and women
ABOUT ADC

- Networking and partnership
  - Chair of NorthNet- a network of 10 local NGOs working in the Northern mountainous region
  - Core member of VNGO-FLEGT network (Forest law enforcement, governance and trade)
  - Member of climate change working group (CCWG), ethnic minority working group (EMWG), and ALiSEA
ABOUT ADC

ADC implemented more than **50 projects** related to ethnic minority (EM) people and agro-ecological transition

- Research
- Training
- Technology transfer
ALISEA PROJECT:

- **Title**: Promotion of indigenous knowledge based climate change resilient and organic farming practices in the northern mountainous region of Vietnam
- **Located in Cho Moi district, Back Kan Province**
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Enhance awareness, understanding, and the knowledge of indigenous based climate change resilient livelihoods and sustainable farming practices for local communities, and civil society organizations (NorthNet), local government staffs.

- Promote the application of sustainable farming practices in the NorthNet’s member organisations working provinces (Bac Kan, Yen Bai, Ha Giang, Phu Tho, Cao Bang and Hoa Binh…).
PROJECT ACTIVITIES

1. Consolidating the indigenous knowledge based climate change resilient and organic farming practices
2. Documenting farming practices for sharing (guideline, reports, handbook)
3. Organizing a sharing experience study tour for key farmers, CSOs, local government officials
4. Training workshop on scaling up the IK based agroecological practices
5. Supporting NorthNet members, local governments to scale up the practices
6. Writing final report (2 short “agroecological transition stories” & a brief narrative & financial report)
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

1. Completed the consolidation of models of the indigenous knowledge based climate change resilient and organic farming practices
2. Documentation: Handbook: Promoting indigenous knowledge and good agriculture practices in climate change adaptation; Micro-organic fertilizer composting techniques; sustainable banana cultivation techniques
3. A training workshop on scaling up the IK based agroecological practices and a sharing experience study tour for key farmers, CSOs, local government officials are organized
4. Supporting NorthNet members, local governments to scale up the practices has been implemented
5. Writing draft reports (2 short “agroecological transition stories” & a brief narrative & financial report)
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

Documentation: Handbook and technical guideline

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR MOUNTAINOUS REGION (ADC)
THE STORIES OF MRS. TONG THI VAN

At the highland community, road transportation and farming conditions are entirely difficult. Therefore, to escape from hunger and poverty is not an easy matter. However, with determination and the spirit of learning, Mrs. Van has learned and enriched on that hard land.

Mrs. Tong Thi Van, a 43-year-old Tay ethnic woman, living in Na Ray village, Thanh Van commune, Cho Moi district, Bac Kan province. Having no conditions for schooling, after finishing secondary school, she had to drop out of school and stay home to job, and most for helping her parents. At the age of 22, she got married and gave birth to three children. In 2009, unfortunately, her husband passed away after suffering a serious disease, leaving his wife and their children. Since that day, her family life was very difficult, strenuous, having only a makeshift house and 3 ha of land planting corn and cassava on steep hills. Total income of her family from farming, mining livestock was only about 7-10 million VND/year, subsequently, her family are still haunted by extreme hardships and poverty.
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

A sharing experience study tour:

30 people (key farmers, CSOs, local government officials) were shared and learnt experiences in the field from local commune on models Banana intercrop with medicinal plant in sloping land; Micro-organism composting process; Green bean cultivation.
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

A training workshop on scaling up the IK based agroecological practices:

- 25 participants from NorthNet network and local government were enhanced their and understanding of IK based climate change resilient livelihoods and sustainable farming.
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

A training workshop on scaling up the IK based agroecological practices:

- Some case studies were shared and discussed to scale up:
  - Banana intercrop with medicinal plant in sloping land
  - Green bean cultivation in inefficient rice land in spring season
  - Agroforestry model intercrop soybean, corn, and forest tree
  - Bee keeping model

- Some organizations have plan to scale up the agriculture models using IK to adapt climate change
WHAT HAS BEEN THE PROJECT ACHIEVED?

Supporting NorthNet members, local governments to scale up the practices

• ADC has been supported Bac Kan CSC, DECEN, CCD, local people in Back Kan province to scale up the models of IK based climate change resilient livelihood and agriculture organic farming practices
CHALLENGES

- Limited in time (9 months) to support scaling up the model of IK based climate change resilient livelihood and agriculture organic farming practices
- Limited in budget to document more stories and practices
- The use of new varieties and chemical fertiliser supported by local authorities

Long term strategy
1) ADC will participate in the workshops to disseminate using IK on climate change adaptation and good agriculture practices
2) ADC will find other resources to continue supporting farmer on using IK on climate change and good agriculture practices
HOW DO THIS INITIATIVE CONTRIBUTE TO THE AGRO-ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

- Supported the application of more sustainable farming practices for at least 200 households in Bac Kan province.
- The indigenous farming practices has been scaled up to other provinces
- The involvement of government officials will facilitate the adoption of these practices in the future.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!