CURRENT STATUS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION IN MYANMAR

Myint Myint Aye, Assistant Director
Agricultural Extension Division

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Three main Activities

I. Seed Production

II. Training & Education

III. Research & Development
Current Status of Agricultural Extension

- DOA is responsible for the transfer of appropriate technology through agricultural extension programs.

- AED is a largest branch with about 9414 staff, of which about 7516 are agricultural technicians.

  (9414 staff in AED of which 14774 staff in DOA)

- About 4.4 million farm households

- Ratio of extension staff and farm family is about 1 to 585.

- AED plays a key role in disseminating research findings and proper message to the farmers, and feedback to researchers on farmers’ reactions to improved technology.
Current Status of Agricultural Extension

Crop Production Area VS AED Staffs

- A total of **38191925 acres** for Major crops growing area.
- **7516 staffs** in AED
- **Average one of the extension staffs is responsibility for 5081 Acres.**

( 1 : 5081)
## Current Status of Agricultural Extension

### Educational Level of Extension Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Ph.D</th>
<th>M.Sc</th>
<th>BAg</th>
<th>Dip Agri</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOA Total Staff</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>2653</td>
<td>4164</td>
<td>7716</td>
<td>14774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Staff</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1576</td>
<td>4059</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td>7516</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Extension Approaches Experienced in Myanmar

- Conventional Agricultural Extension System, in 1927
- Training and Visit System, in 1974
- Special High Yielding Program, in 1975
- Special Crop Production Zone, in 1999
- Block-wise Crop Production Program in 2000
- Commodity Development and Production System, being implemented. (Fruits and Vegetable production in accordance with GAP practices)
- Participatory Extension Approach, being implemented in cooperation with JICA and ACIAR
- Integrated Agricultural Development Programs, being implemented
- Integrated Rural Development Programs, being implemented.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/ Region</th>
<th>No. of Township</th>
<th>No. of Farmer</th>
<th>Area (acre)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naypyitaw</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagaing</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaninthayi</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>1393</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Formulation of Seed Grower Associations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Region</th>
<th>No. of Township</th>
<th>No. of Farmer</th>
<th>Area (acre)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>1055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shan</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyarwaddy</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>877</td>
<td>1947.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>199</strong></td>
<td><strong>3132</strong></td>
<td><strong>10225.5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State/ Region</td>
<td>Township</td>
<td>No. of farmers</td>
<td>Area (acre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagaing</td>
<td>Shwebo</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>Theryarwaddy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>Patheingyi</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>101.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>Kawhmue</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>108.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>91</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Initiation of Myanmar Agricultural Cooperative (MAC)

- Coordination and cooperation meetings to formulate Agricultural Cooperative in each State and Region
- **Initial stage** -
  - Nay Pyi Taw - Nwe Yeit Village (350 nos)
  - Mandalay Region - Ku La Village (172 nos)
  - Bago Region - Sai Ta Mauk Gyi Village (157 nos)
  - Magway Region - Magyikan Village (56 nos)
  - Sagaing Region - Chipa Village (10 nos)
  - - Sintut Village (33 nos)
  - Yangon Region - Zwehtwae Village (524 nos)
Distribution of Technical booklets and Pamphlets
### Human Resource Development

#### CARTC Training Centre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>No. of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3771</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Television Channel for Myanmar Farmers

- Use of mass media is an efficient and effective way for quick dissemination of information in time. Broadcasting the information through TV or radio is very supportive for the farmers.

- Among the mass media, TV program is the most attractive and effective way as it provides audio and visual.

- The MOALI has been producing the TV program for the farmers in cooperation with MRTV.

- This channel was started on 10th September, 2013.
Research and Extension Linkage

- **Annual review meeting** of DAR at national level for the purpose of setting up the research programs in accordance with the feedback of the farmers,

- **Joint meeting** on quality seed production and distribution with a purpose of to increase production and provision of good quality seeds and certified seed multiplication program,

- **Joint field survey**, field trip and field days especially at the experiment stations in cooperation with ACIAR, JICA and IRRI,

- **Consultation meetings**, to identify and/or to solve the problems faced in the implementation of various crop production programs.
Research and Extension Linkage

- Even though the preliminary and advanced trials are conducted as on-station trials, followed by on-farm trials, implementation of on-farm trials is still a weak chain.
- The technology diffusion covers limited scope.
- Moderately strong linkage between research and extension, most of extension personnel at township level do not have a close working relationship with research personnel.
- No research and extension coordination body at state/regional levels.
Challenges in on farm Technology Transfer and Extension Services

- Weakness in the delivery of *appropriate technologies* adaptable to the ecological conditions,
- Limited *technical skills and knowledge* of extension staff,
- Limited *budget* and weak logistic support,
- Confusion of *extension and delivery platform* to provide the necessary information and technologies to the farmers,
- Weakness of two way flow of information between research and extension, consequently Weakness of *appropriate technology* to extend to the farmers.
Challenges in on farm Technology Transfer and Extension Services

- Limited investment in capacity building, research, development and extension to equip the extension staff with technical skill, human relation skill and conceptual skills.
- Weakness in proactive and strategic research and extension plans to meet the needs of farmers.
- Weak in coordination and cooperation among the rural development implementing agencies.
Organizing common interest groups and strengthening of cooperatives and farmers self-help organizations for easy access of agricultural inputs, micro finance and market information,

Encouraging community based integrated farming system,

Enhancing contract farming system to ensure benefit of farmer and private sector for stable market and production packages,
**Priority Actions for Extension Services**

**Small holder farmers**

- Strengthening the participation of small holder farmers through Participatory Extension Approaches,
- Encouraging crop diversification practices in different agro-ecological zones to reduce the risk of climate change,
- Developing the crop insurance programs especially for small holder farmers,
- Cottage Industry and production of value added products for off-farm and non-farm employment and better income,
Priority Actions for Extension Services

Training

- Up to date technical training programs
- Establishment of regionalized training centers such as the delta, hilly regions and CDZ,
- Practicing FFSs to equip the farmers with problem solving abilities
- Organizing vocational training programs for the farm families to get additional income
- Upgrading CARTC due to the link of revised curricula in YAU especially for extension education and agricultural economics,
Priority Actions for Extension Services

Communication with farmers

- Providing information on technical issues supported with photos through mobile phones,
- Establishment of a mobile-based information/advisory system (Call centre) to have the advantage of being relatively low-cost at a high-outreach capacity,
- Communication with community leaders and serve as a platform for an intensive exchange of information and experiences,
- Farmer to farmer knowledge sharing for the high level of technology adoption
Priority Actions for Extension Services

Institutional Development

- Upgrading the capacity of extension staff through the appropriate logistic support
- Setting up of priorities and implementing is essential for the better use of the limited budget and financial resources,
- Setting up a clear and consistent regulatory framework for the private sector,
Setting up national research, Extension and Education system,

As all stakeholders including farmers enjoy the economic benefits with better access of financial and technology, it would surely promote the direct investment in agricultural activities and other related agri-business,

Hand-in-hand cooperation and collaboration of government, private and Development partners ensure sustainable food production and assure market in global and regional.
Myanmar will become a major food supplier in the region in future.

To achieve the target of food security, food safety and poverty alleviation, Myanmar agriculture sector should be improved in momentum.

Extension and technology transfer is regarded as a central mechanism in agricultural and rural development process.

By transforming individual small holders to community based integrated farming system can assure food production.

Enhancing the capacity of individuals to community could be the best door for extension staffs for technology transferred.

Farmers can enjoy the economic benefits from community farming through direct investment and related agri-business.