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INWEPF-THAI Innovative Rice Cultivation to Sustain Green Approaches for food security and alleviate poverty under Global Warming Challenges

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ABSTRACT

Thailand, by the Royal Irrigation Department (RID), is one of the seventeen countries that jointly founded the International Networks for Water and Ecosystem on Paddy Fields (INWEPF) in 2004. After the foundation, the RID has appointed the INWEPF THAI Committee by gathered the representatives of the relevant organizations from both government and private sector, which are engaging in the area of water for paddy field and ecosystem. The mission of THAICID mainly involves water and paddy field so adding the topic of ecosystem helps enhance the irrigation and drainage works to become more sustainable in every aspect. THAICID has its own Charter. So, in order to make more integrated and flexible implementation, the RID has appointed the INWEPF THAI Committee to work correspondingly as a part of THAICID. Nonetheless, Thailand will present itself as the “INWEPF THAI Committee” when communicates with the international networks.

The committed mission of the INWEPF THAI Committee, which proceeds under THAICID by having the RID as the main coordination organization, is to cooperate with the networks in order to exchange, study and to create innovations in the area of irrigation and drainage including ecosystem of the paddy field. In the past seventeen years, INWEPF THAI had been chosen as a host for the international INWEPF Steering Meeting & Symposium for two times: for the 4th Meeting in 2007 in Bangkok and for the 10th Meeting in 2013 in Chiang Mai Province. In the past meetings, the specialized agencies such as ICID, FAO, INPIM and IWMI etc. had attended to all INWEPF Steering Meetings & Symposium, in order to strengthen both the relationship between the organizations and the integration for sustainable cooperation.

The outstanding accomplishment of INWEPF THAI which relates to ICID is that, Thailand was once a host for the 2nd World Irrigation Forum (WIF) and the 67th International Executive Council Meeting (IEC) which took place in June, 2016. INWEPF THAI had also submitted the paper titled “Innovation, Implementation and Extension of the Water Saving Integrated Smart Farming - AWDI technique in Thailand” for the ICID WATSAVE Awards 2016 and received the 1st prize in the category of WATSAVE Innovation Water Management Award. The paper describes about the Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) Rice Farming initiated by the Weekend Farmer Networks illustrated in figure 1 and later extended the results by organized a seminar for Irrigation Offices in the irrigation area all over Thailand. Moreover, it helped enhance and regain the attentiveness of a young generation for the Weekend Farmer Networks’ farming pattern, which could help them to become professional farmers in the future. In 2017, there was an enhancement to develop a new form of rice farming; it finally came up with the new means of innovation for rice farming by stubble or “One Seeding, More than Three Harvesting”, which was researched and developed at the Huai Hong Khrai Royal Development Study Centre. The innovation was further developed from the SALIBU Rice Farming of Inndonesia which was presented to the INWEPF Meeting as the world’s first initiation. At present, there are substantial further developments of the two innovations at an international level: presentations of the know-how to the international platforms, and the Thai Rice Nationally Appropriate Mitigatio Action (Thai Rice NAMA) Project, which are the cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ). The Thai Rice NAMA project aims to enhance production efficiency and rice farming that helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including rice production with Thai GAP++ certification which primarily respond to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the recent COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference aimed to increase climate ambition, build resilience and lower emissions stated in 2021 conference’s framework.

No.	OVERALL RESULTS		
	The INWEPF THAI recognition events	Titled	Year
1	The international INWEPF Steering Meeting & Symposium for the 4 th Meeting in Bangkok	Host Country	2007
2	The international INWEPF Steering Meeting & Symposium for the 10 th Meeting in Chiang Mai Province	Host Country	2013
3	The 2 nd World Irrigation Forum (WIF) and the 67 th International Executive Council Meeting (IEC)	Innovation, Implementation and Extension of the Water Saving Integrated Smart Farming - AWDI technique in Thailand	November, 2016
4	The cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ)	the Thai Rice Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (Thai Rice NAMA) Project supporting UN-Glasgow Climate Conference: COP26	August, 2018 – August, 2023

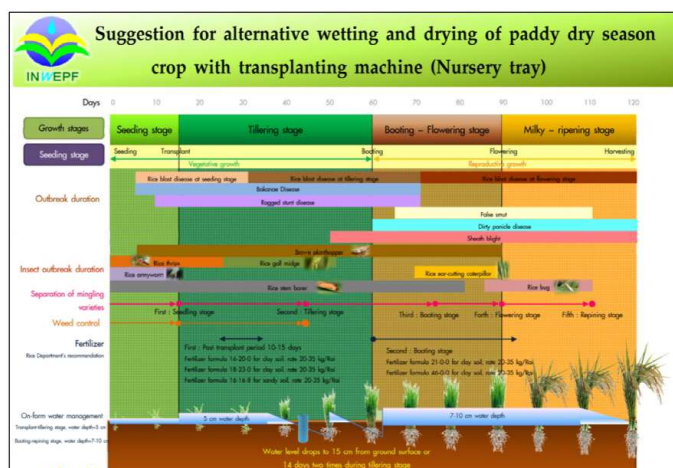


Figure 1 The Integrated Smart Farming - AWDI technique



Fig. 1. INWEPF-THAI



Fig. 2. AWD



Fig. 3. Rice Ratooning



Fig. 4. WATSAVE AWARD 2016

SUMMARY AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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