

# Impacting Livelihoods

## Linking Research to Farmers

[the 'Rice Knowledge Bank' experience]



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# Today, we will discuss....

- A little background on IRRI
- Why and how we built the Rice Knowledge Bank
- Two current successful projects
- The lessons we have learnt
- How we might link to your work

Answer your questions and respond to your comments

# International Rice Research Institute

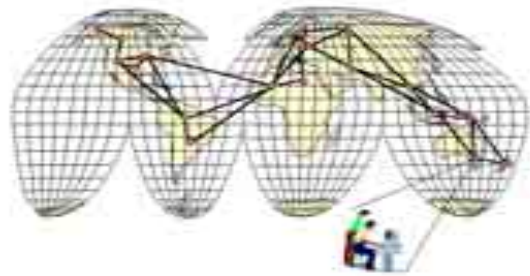
## IRRI

- is based in Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines
- has offices in eleven countries and partnerships with many Governments
- has over 40 years experience in improving rice-based farming systems across the region
- has been exploring the use of ICT to improve the link between farmers and research

# The knowledge gap



# The ICT Challenge



Widest international sources  
Unlimited scope of information  
Incredible depth of information  
Re-useable electronic form



**1** Clearly defined web presence  
Farmer training and support materials



**2** Appropriate content in the right form  
Credible information meeting farmer needs



**3** Delivery to farmers  
Through all intermediaries



# Focused and Credible Content

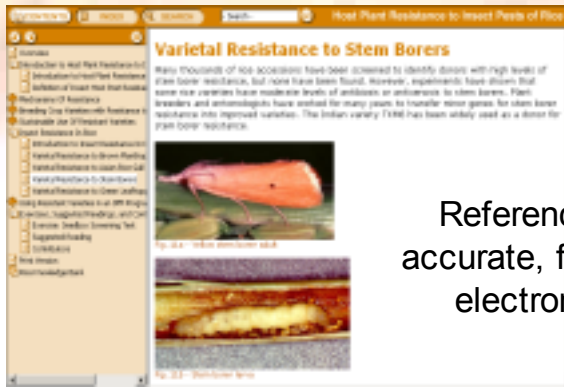
*A Google search using the keyword “rice” results in around 30 million “hits” (up from less than 13 million one year ago). How does a user know which information to trust?*

Focus: training and support of partners to improve delivery to farmers



Content: sign-off process by recognized experts

# Value-added content



Reference guides:  
accurate, fully-indexed,  
electronic books

Fact sheets: provide  
easy-to-use summaries  
of the major points of  
topics



Decision support tools:  
lead people to production decisions

e-learning courses: training captured in a self-learning form



# Demand-driven content



Query analysis of search statistics to complement other sources of need analysis



Support for national needs through local language, country sites

မြန်မာ့ဒေသဆိုင်ရာ အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်

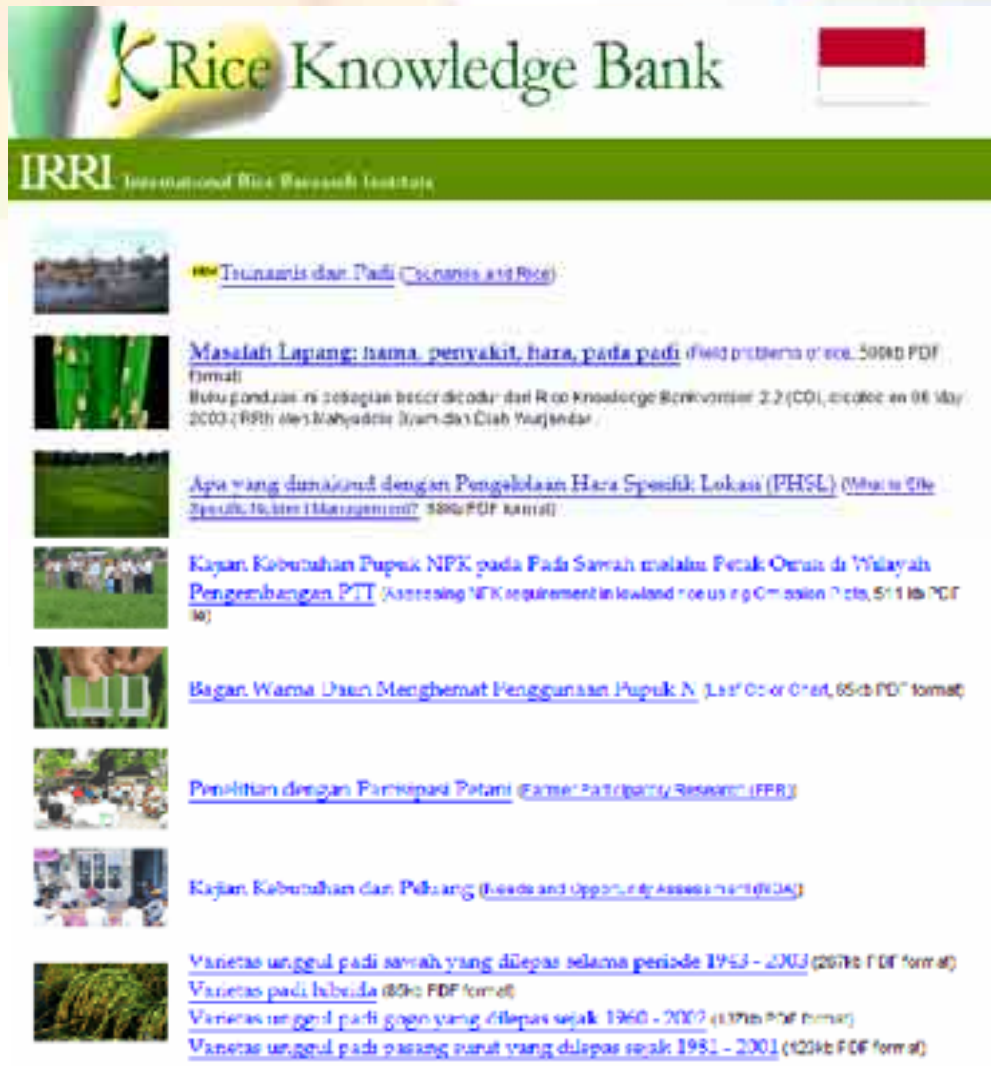
ဤနေရာတွင် မြန်မာ့ဒေသဆိုင်ရာ အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်  
မြန်မာ့ဒေသဆိုင်ရာ အချက်အလက်များ (MAS)  
ဗဟိုအချက်အလက်ဘဏ် (CARTC) နှင့်  
အချက်အလက်ဘဏ် (IRRI) တို့၏  
အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ပါသည်။

အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန် အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်  
အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန် [အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်](#)

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ဗဟိုအချက်အလက်ဘဏ် (CARTC) နှင့်  
အချက်အလက်ဘဏ် (IRRI) တို့၏  
အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်  
Fact Sheet - Reaching Towards Optimum Production









မြန်မာ့ဒေသဆိုင်ရာ အချက်အလက်များကို အသုံးပြုနိုင်ရန်  
Fact Sheet - Sheng Blue Green Rice as a Fertilizer

# Indonesian RKB



**K**Rice Knowledge Bank

IRRI International Rice Research Institute

-  [Trusmi dan Padi \(Trusmi and Rice\)](#)
-  [Masalah Lapangan: hama, penyakit, hama, padi padi \(field problems of rice\)](#) 500kb PDF format  
Buku panduan ini sebagian besar diunduh dari Rice Knowledge Bank volume 2.2 (DOI, created on 06 May 2003 (RRI) oleh Masyarakat (Farmers) Diab Yurjanda)
-  [Apa yang ditakutkan dengan Pengelolaan Hara Spesifik Lokasi \(PHSL\) \(What is the Specific Location Management?\)](#) 389kb PDF format
-  [Kajian Kebutuhan Pupuk NPK pada Padi Sawah melalui Petak Otom di Wilayah Pengembangan PTT \(Assessing NPK requirement in lowland rice using Commission Peta, 511 kb PDF\)](#)
-  [Bagan Warna Daun Menghemat Penggunaan Pupuk N \(Leaf Color Chart, 65kb PDF format\)](#)
-  [Penelitian dengan Partisipasi Petani \(Farmer Participation Research \(FPR\)\)](#)
-  [Kajian Kebutuhan dan Peluang \(Needs and Opportunity Assessment \(NOA\)\)](#)
-  [Varietas unggul padi sawah yang dilepas selama periode 1953 - 2003 \(267kb PDF format\)](#)  
[Varietas padi labeda \(80kb PDF format\)](#)  
[Varietas unggul padi gogo yang dilepas sejak 1960 - 2002 \(137kb PDF format\)](#)  
[Varietas unggul padi pasang surut yang dilepas sejak 1981 - 2001 \(120kb PDF format\)](#)



Priority information that address farmer needs



Local language



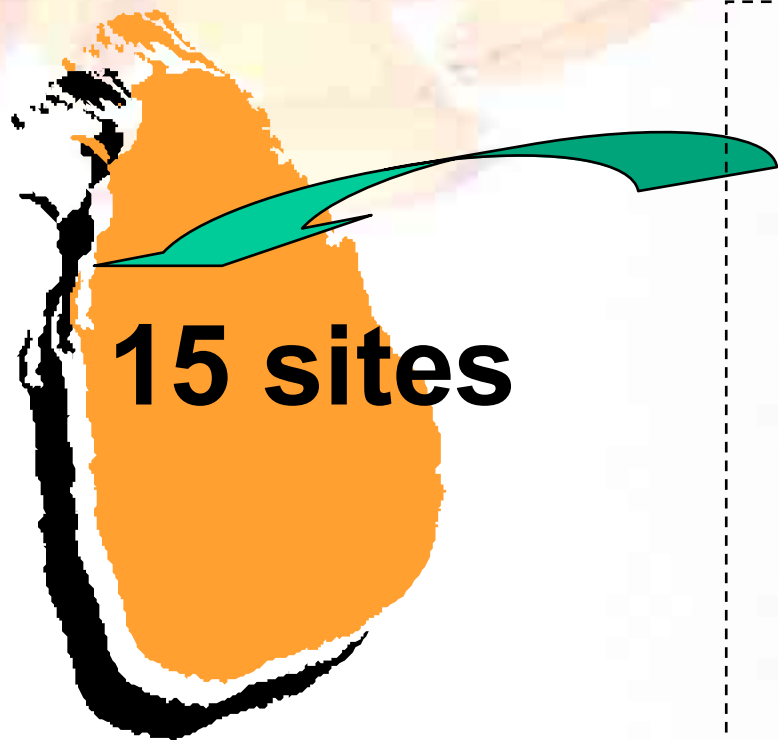
Easy to locate information



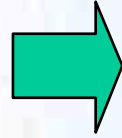
Form for immediate use

# Sri Lanka

[delivery through cyber-centers]



# Cyber-center activity



# Lessons learnt

Farmer-needs focus [not ICT or knowledge]

Farmer-driven access processes

Relevance  
Organization  
Form } of the information critical

Ownership and commitment by partners

# Next steps for IRRI

*“IRRI’s Rice Knowledge Bank is the world’s leading provider of rice-related training and technology information, used by farmers and the people who help them, to improve the livelihoods of rice-dependent communities.”*

## Content:

Expand content that meets priority needs with the addition of relevant information in language and form immediately useful to farmers.

## Application:

Expand the intermediary-partner base

Expand use in assisting intermediaries deliver technical options to farmers more efficiently.

Priority target communities in selected countries will be identified as resources are identified.

# Workshop Links

## Current on-going work:

- JFICT-project to develop use of the RKB in three countries: Cambodia, Thailand & Vietnam
- Developing use of the RKB in Bangladesh with BIRRI and EC Food Security project
- Working with PhilRice to develop more content and expand use in the Philippines
- Introduced the RKB in India, Laos [with NRRP] and Myanmar [with CARTC]
- On-going projects in China, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka

# Workshop Links

## Links to your projects:

- Rice farming knowledge is important to many communities – incorporating the RKB use into your projects may help
- IRRI's experience in developing an RKB may assist
- IRRI's experience with the development and use of e-learning may be of assistance
- There is a core set of management, communication and presentation experience that may assist e-communities
- Further use of our Laos-based English language course
- Perhaps we, with other education and training organizations can prepare a proposal for generic training

Jojo and I would be delighted to discuss possibilities with you!