



"SRT humming..... Soil enriching, Crops booming and Farmers Empowering"

Regional Workshop in Bangkok on Innovative Farming Technologies

Climate Friendly Zero Tillage SRT (Saguna Regenerative Technology) Farming Technologies Showcased at Workshop in Bangkok.

Namaskar,

A pivotal regional workshop titled "Regional Knowledge-sharing Workshop on Stocktaking Low-emission Rice Cultivation Technologies in South and Southeast Asia" took place from April 30 to May 1, 2024, at the Skyview Hotel in Bangkok. This event was a collaborative effort by the Mekong Institute (MI) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The workshop's primary aim was to explore and promote innovative farming technologies capable of mitigating greenhouse gas emissions from rice cultivation. Such technologies are crucial for adoption across several Asian countries, including Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, India, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam, with a focus on improving agricultural efficiency and reducing environmental impacts.



Krishri Ratna Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle represented India/Bharat. While it was one of the best learning experience about rice growing in Southeast Asia, he showcased the climate-friendly zero-tillage SRT (Saguna Regenerative Technology) method of farming. Our primary focus on Happy Farmers & their handholding till they are successful by other successful farmers or by *SRT Sevaks* were the most appreciated concepts. This innovative approach received positive feedback from representatives across South Asian nations, marking a significant step towards sustainable agricultural practices.

The event convened a diverse group of agricultural experts, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners from South and Southeast Asia, fostering an environment of learning and exchange. Insights gained from this workshop are expected to influence future agricultural policies aimed at enhancing productivity while minimizing ecological footprints.



Stories from the SRT fields

1. Shri Navin Bohra: A Testament to the Success of SRT Farming

From the fields of Gangapur in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, Farmer Shri Navin Bohra shares his successful journey with the SRT farming method under the Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture (PoCRA) scheme. Having adopted this technique three years ago, Shri Bohra practices SRT on 42 acres in which he has dedicated 4 acres of his land to the cultivation of summer Pearl Millet (Bajara).



SRT Farmer Shri Navin Bohra and PoCRA Coordinator Mr Suresh Bedwal in SRT Pearl Millet (Bajara) plot.

The health of his plot stands as a testament to the benefits of SRT farming. Shri Bohra reports significant cost savings, reduced water usage, increased crop production, and enhanced soil fertility—all resulting from his shift to this sustainable farming practice. His experience adds a valuable perspective to the ongoing dialogue on innovative, eco-friendly agriculture.

2. Mr. Rajendra Shelke: Enhancing Crop Quality with SRT

In Rajgurunagar, Pune, Mr. Rajendra Shelke has been practicing SRT farming for the past three years. This year, he ventured into growing curry leaves using the SRT method, following successful cycles of soybeans and pearl millets. By leaving the roots of previous crops to decompose in-situ, he significantly increased the soil's fertility.



***SRT Farmer Shri Rajendra Shelake in SRT
Curry leaves (Kadipatta) plot.***

Now, with curry leaves ready for sale, Mr. Shelke remarks on their exceptional fragrance, unlike any he has experienced before. His story underscores the profound impact of SRT on not only crop yield but also on enhancing the quality of the crops, demonstrating a transformative approach to agriculture.



Thank you!

