

Transition to climate-friendly agriculture : support needed by Asian women and men farmers

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introduction

- regional alliance
- 10 national farmers orgs,
- 8 countries in Asia,
- 10 M women and men farmers, fishers, IPs as members



Our understanding of climate change

- CC caused by GHG emissions
- Chemical intensive, industrial agriculture one of main emitters of GHG
- We are mostly affected by climate change
- Women farmers are affected more

The solution we believe in

sustainable, integrated, diversified, organic/ecological friendly agriculture which is owned , controlled and managed by small scale women and men farmers, fishers and indigenous peoples, and massively supported by government policies and programs

The principles of sustainable agriculture

- Socially just and equitable
- Culturally appropriate /sensitive
- Appropriate technology
- Ecologically sound
- Economically viable
- Total human development
- Holistic science

Our SA systems/practices

- Ensuring access to land, water, seeds resources -- advocacy and policy engagement with governments
- Community Seed banking
- Terracing
- Composting
- Crop rotation
- Bio/organic fertilizers and pesticides
- Learn and earning farms/ farmer extensionists / scientist-farmer cooperation
- LEISA
- Alternative pest management
- Integrated farming
- Formation of production and marketing teams
- Vermiculture
- Community-based agro-forestry
- Water storing and harvesting /communal irrigation systems
- Community based renewable bio-energy (charcoal briquette, biogas)

What we expect in the negotiations

- Recognition that there must be support for farmers to adapt to the changing climate
- Adaptation measures must also have a high mitigation potential --- thus the focus on sustainable, integrated, diversified, agro-ecological, organic agriculture systems
- Recognition that farmers provide solutions to climate change as well
- A special focus on women farmers --- to bring their significant involvement and recognition in agriculture

To mainstream agro-ecological systems and practices

- Policies and programs to secure farmers' access and control over lands and other natural resources
- Farmer-centered /led research and development on seeds resilient to droughts/floods/pests , soil and water management, traditional knowledge
- Early weather forecasting / warning systems and community based disaster management and preparedness
- Strong research-extension tie-up between agri universities, scientists and farmers; farmer-farmer extension work
- Incentives for organically-grown crops/products
- Incentives for small and medium enterprises that support agro-ecological practices (e. coco coir / coco peat making)
- Crop insurance
- Finance / Support during the transition from chemical-organic agriculture
- Communication and dissemination of best practice / technologies

Thank you for your attention