



## South-South Knowledge Sharing: Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices Producing More Crops with Less Farm Input: System of Rice Intensification

*Thursday, November 15, 2012*

**Lilongwe (WB Office, Lilongwe-2), Malawi: 2:00pm – 5:00pm**

**Nairobi (WB Office, Nairobi-1), Kenya: 3:00pm – 6:00pm**

**Chennai (IAMWARM), India: 5:30pm – 8:30pm**

**Cornell University and Washington DC (WB HQ MC C2-123), USA: 7:00 am – 10:00 am**

*World Bank • World Bank Institute • Tokyo Development Learning Center*

### **Background:**

Climate-smart-agriculture results in three-wins - increasing agricultural productivity, building resilience to climate change, and helping carbon sequestration into soil and plants to reduce GHG emissions. The System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is a set of innovative practices that help achieve the above triple-wins.

SRI is based on principles of developing healthy, large and deep root systems, which help achieve higher yields than conventionally growing rice crop, and are better resist to drought, water logging, wind and other nature damages. Because of SRI's unconventional cultivation practices, such as no standing water in paddy field, less irrigation, seeds and labor, and more organic matters in soil, SRI is increasingly viewed as one of the climate-smart agriculture measures.



larger, effective  
root systems (left)



Stronger stalks and more tillers



greater resistance to drought

Originally developed in Madagascar in the 1980s, SRI has now spread to over 50 countries around the world. One recent example is Kenya, where SRI was introduced in Mwea, the largest irrigated rice scheme in Kenya. In 2009, two brave farmers started SRI. After 5 cropping seasons, the number of farmers adopting SRI has grown to over 2000 by 2012, and has spread to other schemes.

In Malawi, rice is the second most important staple food. Some farmers and researchers have experimented SRI in the past 2 years, from reading literatures without on-site technical support, and managed to increase yields by 30% in the research plots. Seeing the potential, the Malawian ministry of agriculture has recently expressed an interest in learning the experience of SRI application in other parts of the world. Thus, the World Bank Africa Region, World Bank Institute, together with Tokyo Development Learning Center and South Asia Region, organizes a South-South knowledge exchange on November 15, 2012, through Video-Conferencing.

**Objectives:**

- (i) To share SRI field experiences, to provide a forum for questions and answers among practitioners
- (ii) To establish technical network among the practitioners for future exchange

**Agenda:**

**Lilongwe site:** Before Video-Conference connection, a 1.5 day face-to-face session including a half-day field trip to SRI research field in Lifuwu (Malawi) will be held on November 14 and 15. It will be hosted by Irrigation, Rural Livelihoods and Agricultural Development (IRLADP) project.

**All Sites – Malawi, Kenya, India, US:** Video-Conference connection

Time(Malawi)	Duration	Speaker	Content
2:00	10'	Mei Xie, Pieter Waalewijn	Welcome and introduction
2:10	5'	Yu Huan	Introduce other sites (Kenya, India, CIIFAD)
2:15	10'	Tennyson, Wiseman	Malawi: Perception of SRI
2:25	20'	Vibhu Nayar, Ravichandran Kannan	India: SRI Application & Scaling up in Tamil Nadu
2:45	30'		Q&A
3:15	15'		<i>Coffee break</i>
3:30	15'	Bancy Mati	Kenya: Promoting the Adoption of SRI through Participatory Research and Outreach
3:45	30'		Q&A
4:15	15'	Erika Styger	SRI in Mali and West Africa
4:30	20'		Q&A
4:50	10'	Mei Xie, Pieter Waalewijn	Closing
5:00	finish		

**To join the event online:**

If you wish to view the session, click here: <http://streaming.jointokyo.org/viewerportal/vmc/home.do>

If you have questions to raise, click here: <http://worldbankva.adobeconnect.com/csa/>

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