REPORT ON CODEGAZ 2012 SRI ACTIVITIES

Report from Alain Oscar, CODEGAZ

January 2013

1) BURKINA FASO: A PROMISING FIRST CAMPAIGN IN BAMA

In 2012, CODEGAZ and its partner AMAPAD from Burkina carried a program out in Bama (20 km north of Bobo-Dioulasso) in order to intensify rice production and improve production of market gardening.

Thanks to this program, for the first campaign in 2012:

- 111 farmers (among them 18 women) were trained on SRI
- 25 farmers leaders able to train other farmers on SRI were given an in-depth training on SRI
- 83 farmers practiced SRI methods on their fields
- 32 farmers used organic compost
- 6500 m2 of seedbeds were planted
- 65 hectares of surface were cultivated with SRI methods.

Thanks to SRI methods, farmers registered an average yield of 7,64 tons/hectare, an increase of 70% in the yield in comparison with traditional rice culture.

The increase in production will allow farmers to have food until the next harvest and to generate surpluses that can be sold on the wholesale merchants of Bobo-Dioulaasso. In the future, AMAPAD intends to open rice-shops in Bama and Bobo-Dioulasso in order to increase sales revenues of farmers.



2) CAMBODIA: SRI AND ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM IN SIEM REAP

In 2012, with its Cambodian partner CEDAC, CODEGAZ carried out the 3-years training program for poor farmers on SRI, market gardening and ecological chicken raising in 6 villages of the Siem Reap province.

Thanks to this program, 380 farmers were trained and could improve significantly their rice crop yield, diversify their food supply and increase their financial revenues.



3) MADAGASCAR: A GOOD SRI CAMPAIGN IN MORARANO

In 2012, CODEGAZ continued cooperating with its Malagasy partner TAOEZAKA on the SRI project in the rural town of Morarano.

The campaign 2011-2012 which was the second brought very good results:

- 1 549 farmers trained on the SRI methods
- 434 rice farmers practiced SRI in their fields
- 8.193m² of seedbeds were planted
- 85 hectares of rice fields were planted with SRI methods.

Rice yields could be significantly increased thanks to implementation of SRI technics. With a yield of 8 to 9 tons per hectare, rice yields could triple.

This program also included a specific SRI awareness and initiation campaign for school children through presentations in the town schools. Thus this year 441 pupils could be initiated into SRI methods

In terms of impact of SRI on farmers' living conditions, a study with a sample population of 20 people could determine that practicing SRI had been very beneficial for the farmers. The impact has been positive for "their living conditions, their health conditions, for sending children to school, and even their well being". All rice farmers interviewed were unanimous about the effectiveness of SRI, particularly rice farmers with small plots who were able to double or triple their yield through SRI.

