

# Horticulture Innovation Lab Regional Center at Kasetsart University

Poon Kasemsap



HORTICULTURE INNOVATION LAB



### Primary goals of the centers:

- Researching, innovating and disseminating horticultural technologies
- Training farmers, horticultural stakeholders, extension agents and researchers
- Building capacity among local institutions

Meeting food needs and improving nutrition and human health in the developing world

Providing opportunities for increasing income, economic and social advancement



### **Objectives**

- To enable and promote adoption of horticultural technologies
- To provide training programs for professionals, on-site and across the region
- To encourage entrepreneurs to utilize and manufacture innovative technologies
- To serve as repositories and dissemination points for knowledge
- To facilitate human capacity building
- To undertake appropriate research
- To promote economically and environmentally sustainable agricultural production among small- to medium-sized farms, especially those managed by women.



## To enable and promote adoption of horticultural technologies

Pest exclusion net ...







#### Cambodia:

- Training (with AVRDC) in RUA.
  - ▶ [low cost cool room & CoolBot]
- Training on how to build cool room and monitoring power usage

(with Prof Reyes)



#### Bangladesh

The postharvest training with DAI. The aim is to teach farmers to understand the main postharvest needs in Bangladesh, and the importance of good postharvest handing practices for the target crops.







#### Nepal:

- Postharvest technologies
- Hamsapur, Chitawan, and Katmandhu



### To undertake appropriate research

Natural, edible coating

Postharvest

Agricultural machinery



#### D-Lab

- Young coconut shell opener for retail sale
- Low cost vacuum seal for agricultural product packaging
- Cold room for small scale farmer
- Solar dryer for agricultural products
- Small scale rice grader for organic rice products.





#### New and exciting development:

- Conservation agriculture (Prof Manny Reyes)
- Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab (Prof Rick Bates)
  - Women in Agriculture Network (WAgN) Cambodia: Genderand Ecologically Sensitive Agriculture
- 'Feed the Future Asia Innovative Farmers Activity' USAID funded projected (Winrock International)
- Dual/joint MS (Food Security and Climate Change)
  - Erasmus+ project proposal



### Feed the future Asia Innovative Farmers Activity

#### Winrock International

- KU + WFLO
- Resource partners ...
- Winrock will increase agricultural productivity and related investments and strengthen the region's ability to promote scalable agricultural solutions across Asia.
- The outcome will increase food security, reduce poverty, and improve environmental sustainability.

#### Two initial packages of interventions:

- The horticulture package focuses on using pest exclusion nets
- The aquaculture package ...



### **ASEAN**: Capacity building in Agriculture



Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture

Science and Education for Agriculture and Development

Offers 30-40 MS/PhD scholarships per year

- To ASEAN member countries
- To study at five SEARCA University Consortium member universities.

SEARCA
University Consortium

Thailand (KU) Malaysia (UPM) Indonesia (IPB, UGM) Philippines (UPLB)

### Dual research MS/PhD in Agriculture



- ▶ a compulsory mobility during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year for thesis research, jointly supervised by two universities



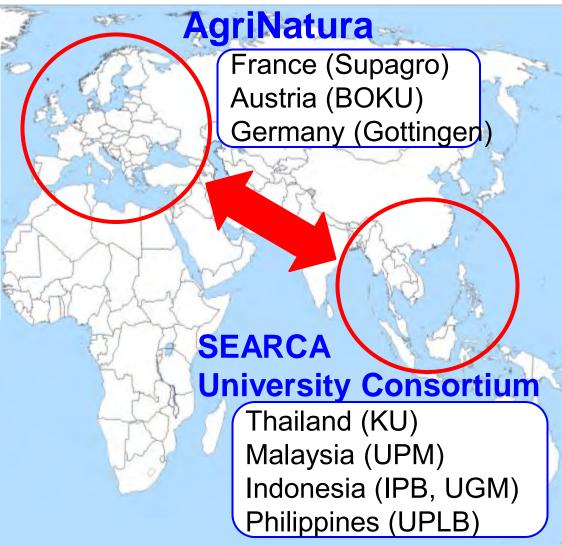
### An Erasmus+ proposal:

Joint MS (Food Security and Climate Change)



Selection: 2016

KA2 - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education



## Dual/joint MS (Food Security and Climate Change)



#### Strategic partners:

- Cambodia (RUA+UBB)
- Thailand (PSU+CMU)
- Malaysia (Nilai U)
- Philipines (CLSU)
- SEARCA+ AgriNatura+ Agreenium

#### **AgriNatura**

France (Supagro)
Austria (BOKU)
Germany (Gottinger)

Cambodia (RUA+UBB

## SEARCA University Consortium

Thailand (KU) Malaysia (UPM) Indonesia (IPB, UGM) Philippines (UPLB)

#### MS FSCC two possible tracks

Track 1

**Common selection and admission procedure** 

Track II

(2 years)

Orientation week – all students (UC summer school I)

(2.5 years)

UC member I (home)

30 ECTS

UC member II (host)

30 ECTS

(UC summer school II)

UC members (home+host)

60 ECTS: co-supervised thesis

UC member I (home)

30 ECTS

UC member II

30 ECTS

**UC summer school II** 

Aginatura Univ. partner
30 ECTS

MS FSCC members (home+host)

60 ECTS of Thesis

**UC forum** 

#### Proposal for possible collaboration:

- Capacity building for feed the future countries
  - Nepal, Bangladesh, Cambodia (... future strategic partners?)
- Curriculum development focused on Horticulture technology innovation:
  - Courses, summer schools, case studies, internship, MS research, or other activities
  - Dual/joint MS FSCC degree
  - Nutrition security to stop hidden hunger?



