Climate Smart Villages (CSVs): Platforms for Scaling Out Climate Smart Agriculture and Community-based Adaptation in Myanmar

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Myanmar at a Glance

• Socio-Political
  o Land area: 676,577 km²
  o Population roughly 53 million
  o Two capitals Yangon (business) and Naypyidaw (government)
  o Poverty rate: 25%, Food insecure: 10%

• Agriculture
  o Agriculture contributes to 34% of the GDP
  o Rural population is 75% mostly in farming
  o Only 13% of farms are irrigated

• Climate Change
  o 3 seasons (rainy, winter and summer)
  o Increased temperatures (0.08 C) and fewer cold days and frequent hot days
  o Start of monsoon 1-2 weeks late than normal, withdrawals at 7-19 days earlier
  o Shorter rainfall durations
Background

MCSA Strategy (CCAFS)

2016

RTD on CSA and Nutrition with IIRR Philippines (CCAFS, CIAT)

Scoping mission in 4 agro-ecologies (CCAFS)

2017

Research in 4 CSVs (IDRC)

2018

Setting up 2 CSVs (CCAFS)

...2020

CSA/CSV timeline in Myanmar
Research Themes and Questions

What are the ways to optimize CSA and CBA processes in four different agro-ecological and socio-cultural settings in Myanmar?
- Cross-site analysis to highlight common and differentiated approaches
- Resources and mechanisms to support CBA at village level in Myanmar
- Leveraging nutrition and food security via CSA
- Opportunities for women economic and social empowerment of women within CSA and CBA

What mechanisms and social learning process can be adopted in Myanmar to scale-out CBA and CSA?
- farmer to farmer approaches
- strengthening local extension and linkages with local research stations

How are current mechanisms and programs of government, academia and civil society serve as pathways towards scaling-out CBA and CSA?
- via Capacity development of local NGOs
- via Learning events with government, academia and CSOs
- via Myanmar-specific publications
Methodology

**Impact:** Resilience in Agriculture, Food Security, and Nutrition

**Scaling-Out Outcomes:**
- Enabling environment supportive of climate resilient, gender sensitive and nutrition friendly agriculture
- Strengthened government policies, programs, and investments supporting climate resilient agriculture
- Increased adoption and mainstreaming of CRA within development programs of civil societies
- Sustained engagement between research institutions and local communities thus influencing research for development (R4D) activities

**Village-Level Outcomes:**
- Increased adaptive capacities of smallholder-farmer households, improved food security, livelihoods and nutrition outcomes of farm and homestead scales
- Increased farm productivity, reduced risks and enhanced resilience

**Drivers of Food Insecurity and Vulnerability in Myanmar**
(1) Climate Variability, (2) Climate Extremes, (3) Poverty, (4) Gender Inequalities, and (5) Landlessness
Key outputs

• Scoping Study of 4 Agro-Ecologies
  o Site visits and focus group discussions in mountain, hilly, dry zone and delta agro-ecologies
  o WP: Promotion of CSVs to Support CBA in Myanmar

• Baseline studies
  o Desk reviews
  o Household surveys in 4 CSVs (N=500++ HH)
  o PVAs and FGDs
  o Report to be ready by February 2019

• Publications
  o Blogs in the CCAFS website (3-4 blogs)
  o CSV profiles for each CSV (wip)
  o CSV Portfolio (wip)
  o Primer on CSVs in Myanmar
Key outputs

- **Farm-level testing of options**
  - Participatory adaptive research crop trials
  - Crop intensification and diversification: resilience building
  - Agro-biodiversity conservation of crops/varieties and livestock and
  - Addressing land degradation through agro-forestry

- **Homesteads**
  - Intensification with fruits and small livestock
  - Bias towards female-headed HH
  - Low carbon footprint small livestock (pigs, ducks and fish)
  - Multi-story cropping

- **School level testing of options**
  - Conservation site for resilient crops of nutritional importance
  - Platform for nutrition and environment education
  - Serve as fodder banks for dry season needs
Emerging outcomes

**Government (MOALI)**
- Initial linkages between DAR researches and CSV activities
- Initial engagement with local DoA for promoting CSA in extension

**Academe (YAU)**
- Strengthening of newly established National CSA Center at YAU (materials and academic meetings)

**Civil Society (FSWG)**
- Initial capacity development started for the members of the WG (CSA seminar, study program to Guinyangan CSV in Philippines)
Future activities

- **CSA/CBA in the CSV**
  - Conduct 2 seasons of technology testing based on the baseline studies
  - Action research on gender and nutrition in the CSV

- **Capacity Development and Policy Influence**
  - National CSA/CSV Training course in 2019
  - National and Regional Conference on CSA/CSVs

- **Publications**
  - Primers on leveraging nutrition and CSA opportunities for gender empowerment
  - 3 Working Papers as follows:
    - Evidence-base for CSVs as platform for CBA
    - Leveraging nutrition and opportunities for gender
    - Pathways to scaling out CSA/CBA in Myanmar
Thank you!

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