ALiSEA Network Vietnam Online thematic session to share experience on PGS

Development of PGS and environmental education for children in Ben Tre and Dong Thap Provinces
- Challenges and opportunities -

Seed to Table
Director MAYU INO
24th September 2021

Current situation of Agriculture, rural area, and farmers in Vietnam

- Reduction of the number of agricultural workers⇒ serious impact to food security, environmental protection, preserving local culture
- Applying new technology, mechanization ⇒ reducing opportunities for poor households to get part-time jobs or working places
- Widening the gap between rich and poor
- Increasing risks of climate change, environmental pollution, pandemics...
- ⇒Helping small-scale farmers stabilize their lives through strengthening mutual cooperation among different stakeholders, applying measures to protect the environment and adapt to climate change, producing high-quality agricultural products, building value chains, and improving the access to new markets.

Impact of Climate change











Why do small-scale farmers need to apply organic agriculture and PGS?

- Growing organic market in the world.
- Reducing the number of farmers, farmers' income has not increased.
- ⇒Motivation for farmers to get more cash income.
- Consumers need information about the producers, the method of production and which standard applied.
- ⇒Monitoring/inspection and certification and traceability systems are required
- Producers must change farming practices to reduce the risks of climate change and produce sustainably.
- ⇒Producers need to apply environmentally friendly agricultural methods

Mekong Delta







PGS Bến Tre and PGS Đồng Tháp

	PGS Bến Tre	PGS Đồng Tháp
Founded year	2014	2020
Number of Inter-group	3 : Bình Đại, Ba Tri, Mỏ Cày Nam Districts	3: Cao Lãnh City, Thanh Bình, Hồng Ngự Districts
Number of farmers (Number of farmers' group)	26 hhds (8)	12 hhds (5)
Area	5.74 ha Organic : 1.26 ha Conversion : 4.48 ha	1.42 ha
Product	Vegetables, coconuts, chicken	vegetables

Bến Tre Province





Training on Organic farming





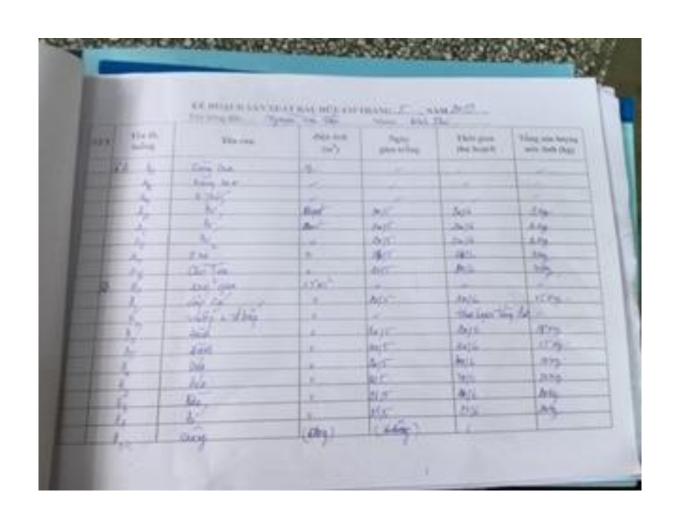


Inspection





Daily operational records





Providing PGS certification



Developing logo of PGS Bến Tre with students





Logo of PGS Bến Tre





Building facility for packaging vegetables Joining weekend market held in HCM City





Promotion of organic vegetables





Organic coconut farmers' group





Organic coconuts Processing facility





Organic coconuts chips were sold at super market in HCM City







Environmental education for students











Đồng Tháp Province





TOT training





Training on Organic farming





Collaboration with PGS Bến Tre





Environmental education for students



Achievements

- The cash income of small-scale farmers has increased (Average is 2-3 times higher than before joining PGS)
- Enhancing the capacity of small-scale farmers through the production of high quality agricultural products such as organic PGS certified products, keeping daily operational records, and direct cooperation with retailors and consumer groups.
- Strengthen relationships and collaboration among stakeholders through group works.
- Young farmers and young staff of counterpart became the core members of PGS B\u00e9n Tre and PGS D\u00f6ng Th\u00e1p and they maintain and develop PGS activities.

Challenges

- Finding vegetable/coconut/fruit gardens that qualifies as organic production is difficult.
- Finding clean water resources is getting difficult.
- There are markets. Farmers' income has increased. ⇒The number of farmers applying organic agriculture has not increased much.
- Reduction of workers in rural areas ⇒ Production costs increase, implementation of organic agriculture is difficult.
- The effects of climate change are becoming more obvious, so farmers need to improve their infrastructure.
- Need more human resources to maintain PGS activities and active participation of local government, restaurants and hotels

