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OCCASION

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Final Report

The Use of Information Technologies in Support of
the FARM Programme Regional Training Workshop
29 - 3 July 1998
Bangkok, Thailand

UNIDO Project TF/GLO/96/105
UNIDO Contract No. 98/182

There were 17 Asian delegates from 8 countries: China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam, participating in this Workshop. A full list of participants is attached as Annex 1. The list of experts is in Annex 2.

All participants reached conclusions that web pages are necessary means that are used to deliver information to staff of an extension service such as the Department of Agricultural Extension. The extension service is expected to interpret any technical information produced by scientists and/or technologists and transfer those interpretations to farmers.

Realizing the vital role internet can play on agricultural sector, the meeting proposed the establishment of the Asian Bioinformatics Network for Arid and Rainfed Areas. Through this Network, web pages will be constructed with the following suggested topics and details which expect to benefit the staff working in the extension stations:

Topics	Proposed detail to be included
A. Farm Ecology	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. List of related websites2. Information on geography<ul style="list-style-type: none">• altitude• day length3. Information on climate<ul style="list-style-type: none">• rainfall• temperature• humidity4. Information on soil<ul style="list-style-type: none">• types (acid/alkaline, clay/silt)• erosion5. Information on water<ul style="list-style-type: none">• watersheds• salt6. Information on farmers<ul style="list-style-type: none">• economic status• needs assessments• feedback/responses
B. Biological Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. List of related websites2. Information on crop varieties (landraces, new varieties, etc.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• rice• wheat• bamboo3. Information on domestic animal breeds (locally

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adapted breeds, etc.) • water buffalo • chicken 4. Information on aquaculture/fish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carp • shrimp • algae 5. Information on microorganisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soil inoculants (mycorrhizae, etc.) • biological control agents • probiotics 6. Information on pest / diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • geographic distribution • symptoms / diagnosis • control methods 7. Information on biological resource management practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic status • needs assessments • feedback / responses
C. Biodiversity and Bioprocessing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of related websites 2. Information on local / indigenous knowledge 3. Information on medicinal plants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • databases 4. Information on biological control agents
D. Biotechnologies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of related websites 2. Information on geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integration pest management • soil / nutrient management • water management 3. Information on land preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stubble retention • cover crops • green manures • traction types 4. Information on crop / animal production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grafting • micropropagation • vaccines • pest / disease diagnostics 5. Information on post harvest processing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preservation techniques • milling • fermentation techniques • non-food uses (leather, fuel, construction) 6. Information on post harvest storage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental control • biological control agents • fungicides

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planting materials
E. Markets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of related websites 2. Information on commodities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commodity prices • commodity and market trends • information on the private sectors • production forecast 3. Information on quality standards for sale of commodities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grading and certification • national consumption / national import • international export 4. Information on distribution systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • routes • transportation costs • feedback & interaction at design state
F. Policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of related websites 2. Information on national plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic plan (export promotion, import substitution, tariff & quota) • agricultural plan • biodiversity plan 3. Information on legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quarantine (pest / diseases, alien species) • intellectual property rights (farmer privilege, royalty payments) • biosafety • food safety (public / private) 4. Information on access to investment and credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grants • loan, credit, microfinance • external investment 5. Information on natural resource management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • district level 6. Information on land use and tenure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land tenure legislation • land use planning
G. Case studies	

All participants agreed that UNIDO would initially fill in all information as much as possible in each category and content. Meanwhile, standard databases of each category will be distributed to each member country. Each member country and UNIDO will, then, try to maintain, update and fill in as much information as possible.

The web sites will be established at both UNIDO's servers and member countries' servers. All will be connected to one another using logical links. Discussion groups will be established for the member to for discussion, inquiry and contact among members.

The most important of this network is financial support. FARM Program is going to be

terminated at the end of October 1998. UNIDO and FAO will attempt to continue supporting and/or find other funding agencies. It was agreed that each member country would keep supporting and maintaining its own web pages with local finance.

Financial Statement of Expenses

Reporting Form for the UNIDO Contract No. 98/182
Training Workshop on the "Use of Information Technologies in Support of the
FARM Programme" 29 June – 3 July 1998, Bangkok, Thailand

Income

Support from UNIDO

1. First Payment US\$ 22,400

Expenditure

Item	Amount (US\$)
1. International experts: travel, DSA and honoraria	
• Dr. Evan Lagudah	3,750
• Dr. Charlie Spillane	2,400
• Dr. Julian Kinderlerer	1,000
2. International consultant (Dr. Vladimir Samoilov)	8,000
3. Computer software	1,065
4. Two national experts	
• Mr. Kasemsant Kuphanumat	1,600
• Dr. Boonchuay Srithammasak	1,600
5. Secretarial assistance and technical support	2,000
6. Sundries (printing, communications, etc.)	985
Total	22,400

Note: Item 5 and 6 are expenses incurred at BIOTEC; invoices and receipts are not applicable.

I hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

Sirinard Thabthong
Ms. Sirinard Thabthong
Account & Finance Officer, BIOTEC

03 MARCH 1999
Date

Sutat Sriwatanapongse
Dr. Sutat Sriwatanapongse
Deputy Director, BIOTEC

03 March 1999.
Date

Annex 1

List of Participants - FARM Network Nodes

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ศูนย์พันธุวิศวกรรมและเทคโนโลยีชีวภาพแห่งชาติ
สำนักงานพัฒนาวิทยาศาสตร์และเทคโนโลยีแห่งชาติ

National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC)
National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

INVOICE No. ๐๐๑/1999

Purchase and Contracts Section
General Services Branch
Field Operations and Administration Division
UNIDO
P.O. Box 300
A-1400 Vienna
AUSTRIA

Date : 03 MARCH 1999
Re. : UNIDO Contract No. 98/182

	Item	Amount (in US\$)
1.	Payment received through the bank transfer in June 1998	+22,400
2.	Expenditure on international experts	
	• Dr. Evan Lagudah	-3,750
	• Dr. Charlie Spillane	-2,400
	• Dr. Julian Kinderlerer	-1,000
3.	International consultant	-8,000
4.	Computer software	-1,065
5.	Two national experts	
	• Mr. Kasemsant Kuphanumat	-1,600
	• Dr. Boonchuay Srithammasak	-1,600
6.	Secretarial assistance and technical support	-2,000
7.	Sundries (printing, communication, etc.)	-985
	Total	0

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