

Regenerative Coconuts Agriculture Project (ReCAP)

Context

Nam Hom coconuts, or aromatic coconuts, are a special coconut variety from Thailand known for their exceptionally fragrant water. The demand for these fruits from across the world has surged over the past few years. To keep up the supply, farmers have turned to monoculture and the use of heavy chemical inputs to boost their yields. The short-term focus of these practices is harming the environment and putting farmers and farm workers' livelihoods at risk. In order to develop and incentivise more sustainable practices of coconut farming, the idea of the **Regenerative Coconuts Agriculture Project (ReCAP)** was born.

Objective

The objectives of the project are to support and train 350 coconut farmers to grow coconuts according to regenerative organic agricultural practices; to equip farmers with basic business skills to diversify and thereby increase their income; and to establish a self-sustained entity that enables and supports continuous development of sustainable farming practices among the coconut communities of the so-called "Nam Hom Provinces".

Approach



Preparation

- Develop training materials
- Select 10 pilot farmers
- Baseline study
- Explore institutional partnerships



Pilot Phase

- Train master trainers and pilot farmers
- Define best practices for intercropping, cover crops, bees and organic inputs



Scale-up Phase

- Train 340 farmers on regenerative organic practices
- Roll out farming app
- Identify solutions for farm workers



Exit Strategy

- Establish entity managed by community to support farmers
- Impact assessment

Overview

Commissioned by	Harmless Harvest and its Fair for Life Premium Fund Danone Ecosystem Fund
Implemented by	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Harmless Harvest Thailand
Project Region	Samut Sakhon, Ratchaburi, Samut Songkhram, Nakhon Patom (Thailand)
Overall Term	1 June 2020 – 31 August 2023

Expected Results



350 coconut farmers are trained in central Thailand



At least 800 hectares are converted to regenerative organic agriculture



Through income diversification, farmers increase their incomes by 10%



Training Curriculum on farm management, soil health, organic inputs, pest management, and regenerative organic practices



Establishment of an entity to support regenerative organic farmers



Contact

Lisa Faust
Project Manager
GIZ Thailand
lisa.faust@giz.de