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Category	: International Rice Research Conference
Select Theme	: Sustainable and equitable farming systems
Endorsement email	:
Keyword 1	: System of Rice Intensification (SRI)
Keyword 2	: Sustainable management practices
Keyword 3	: Livelihood and social equity
Title of Entry	: Establishment Of Community-based Dissemination Model And Its Effective Function For Sustainable Food Security And Poverty Reduction
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Select only one type of presentation	: 15 minute oral presentation
Abstract	: Vietnam ranks as one of the largest rice exporters in the world. Two major deltas, the Mekong River Delta and the Red River Delta, contribute around 70 per cent of the country's rice production and 90 per cent of its rice exports, while people in the mountainous areas of Central Vietnam still suffer from food shortage for three to four months per year. To combat this incongruous situation, the Foundation for International Development/Relief (FIDR), a Japan-based NGO has launched a project to introduce System of Rice Intensification (SRI) methods and to establish a Community-based Dissemination Model for sustainable

food security and response to climate change. One of the difficulties that the government and aid agencies generally face is to create an effective and sustainable dissemination model for newly-introduced technology, when this is totally unfamiliar to targeted region and residents. Vietnam consists of 54 ethnic groups, and 14 per cent of the population is comprised of 53 ethnic minorities, mainly living in mountainous areas. Almost 50 per cent of these ethnic minorities still live below the poverty line and are threatened by food shortages. Within their cultural context, it is hard to adapt the new concepts of farming, and they are not used to paddy rice cultivation yet, being experienced with upland rice production. In 2011, FIDR started to demonstrate SRI farming on part of the paddy fields of 3 households in one village in Quang Nam province. Now it has been expanded to more than 2,000 households in 7 districts in 2 provinces. Recent research shows that SRI methods are effective to increase yields by up to 1.5 times more than previous levels of productivity. What makes this spread possible is the Community-based Dissemination Model with the sustainable management practices that the project created. Government officers, experts and the communities themselves involve key farmers in this model and they play a central role of the practical sharing of SRI knowledge to neighbors. The model is utilizing effectively in the area for sharing of techniques to benefit all stakeholders, especially farmers, with sustainable food security and adaptive responses to climate change.

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