

### June News & Updates



Faculty of Agricultural Engineering organized the 4th consultation meeting to review and develop curricula of the faculty with our ASMIH -Cambodia project.

## Project Update: Digital Tools, Geospatial, and Farming Systems Consortium

The Digital Tools, Geospatial, and Farming Systems consortium, led by Dr. Ignacio A. Ciampitti, is making great progress towards the main goals of developing critical data products for assisting the decision-making process of farmers in the target SIIL countries. His team focuses on analyzing field data from Senegal on dual-purpose millet and the response to management (plant density, and fertilization), in addition to developing soil-climate regions (Figure 1) for upscaling

# Figure 1. Spatial distribution of precipitation and evapotranspiration data in Senegal. Analysis of spatial and temporal data for generate environmental clusters in Senegal Spatial distribution of Hydrological balance (PP-Eto) among months in the year

relevant dual-purpose field productivity data and to better understand the response of management interventions across different environments.

#### USAID Ambassador Visits Technology Park in Cambodia

CE CAIN Cambodia welcomed U.S. Ambassador W. Patrick Murphy to a field visit earlier this month. The visit highlighted CE SAIN's Agricultural Technology Park at Bosknor Conservation Agriculture Research Station in Kampong Cham province. CE SAIN hosted this event alongside the Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management of the General Directorate of Agriculture to present the research and demonstration activities,



innovations, and achievements on conservation agriculture and sustainable intensification practices.

## Project Partnership to Build Sustainable Aquaculture in Cambodia

Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), the Universiti Sains Malaysia, and the Center of Excellence on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Nutrition (CE SAIN) at RUA collaborated at a recent virtual signing ceremony brought together experts to foster growth in aquaculture for Cambodia.

"Building capacity in Cambodia in terms of sustainable aquaculture is a key step for us and



our project as we work to help with food insecurity in Cambodia." said Manny Reyes, a research professor for Kansas State University and investigator for the Fish Innovation Lab project.

Read Article

<u>Here</u>

## Project Update: S3-Cambodia: Scaling Suitable Sustainable Technologies

The S3 project has been working with schools to build 'green labs' or school garden spaces where they can learn about STEM+Ag, as well as increase the biodiversity at schools. The team has also been meeting with administrators of all the high schools across all 28 Provinces in Battambang and trying to understand the resources they have as well as their needs. Along with this their graduate student was awarded \$5k in

additional funding and technician, Channaty Ngang, won the best poster competition at the SIIL annual meeting.

#### Student and Intern Highlights



Nareth Nut

CE SAIN Cambodia

Nareth is earning his P.h.D. in Agricultural

Engineering at the Royal University of

Agriculture

"The biggest challenges of my research are related to the limited and lack of financial support to continue the research. Community and stakeholder engagement is important to promote the research results. Along with this, farmers are not easy to adopt the research findings as long as they have not seen it with their own eyes.

The research allows us to fix our mistakes and continuously learn from them. We all feel pleased when we find reasonable solutions to those problems."



Louise Mbaye
Improving Food and Nutrition Security in Senegal
and Niger
Louise is earning her Master's degree in

Louise is earning her Master's degree in Agronomy at the University of Gaston Berger in Saint Louise

"During my research, the biggest setback was the lack of technical means for doing physical and chemical analyses of soil samples taken in the field.

My motivation was my passion for agronomy and my desire to find scientific results that may be beneficial for the intensification of millet production and that globally may resolve the issue of food security in Senegal!"



Nusrat Tasnim ASMIH-Bangladesh

Nusrat is earning her Master's degree in Rural Sociology at the Bangladesh Agricultural University

"While working on agro-machinery-based women entrepreneurship and their empowerment in Bangladesh the main setback with my research progression is the rapid spread of the coronavirus. While I began data collection in March 2021 the virus outbreak was already deteriorating and as of present, the government has declared the shut down of the whole country. To combat this my supervisor is arranging online training programs. In February, I participated in a gap analysis program under a project which helped me set up my research objectives and women's involvement in the agricultural machinery business."

#### Consortium (ASMC)

ASMC held a virtual ASMC Phase II Inception Meeting in June of 2021 with participants from around the world. Project Leaders from Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, and Senegal presented their accomplishments and planned activities. The Burkina Faso team presented ASMC technologies to the Ministry of Agriculture at the 3rd International Symposium of Sustainable Lands Management. The Senegal team researched to evaluate the effectiveness of a manure applicator and planter combination.

Listen to ASMC's Phase II Inception Meeting Recording <u>here.</u>



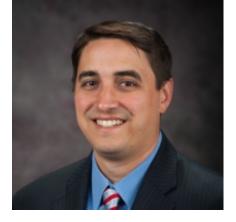
Visit ASMC's website below to learn more of their accomplishments this past year and to view their many publications.

Visit ASMC's Website

#### Focus Country Highlight - Bangladesh



#### **Awards and Recognitions**



Dr. Ignacio Ciampitti, Director of our Digital Tools, Geospatial, and Farming Systems Consortium received the Sigma-Xi Outstanding K-State Scientist Award.



Dr. Krishna Jagadish, Principal Investigator of our Bangladesh Project received the K-State Outstanding Research Award from the Gamma Sigma Delta

#### **Upcoming Events**

The Annual Meeting of the Tri-Societies (American Society of Agronomy; Crop Science Society of America; Soil Science Society of America) are to focus on "A Creative Economy for Sustainable Development" in Salt Lake City, Utah from 7-10 November 2021. There is still time to submit abstracts. To learn more about the event and abstract submission please visit below.

Learn More Here!











