



SRP

ANNUAL REPORT

2020





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) is a global multi-stakeholder alliance comprising over 100 institutional members from public and private stakeholders, research, financial institutions and NGOs. Together with its members, SRP aims to transform the global rice sector by improving smallholder livelihoods; reducing the social, environmental and climate footprint of rice production; and by offering the global rice market an assured supply of sustainably produced rice.

The Annual Report 2020 reflects on key achievements and activities of the association throughout the year, including the establishment of the Sustainable Rice Platform e.V as an independent legal entity under German law; SRP's membership; initiatives from SRP and its members as a reaction to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; as well as achievements from SRP's focus areas in 2020.

Highlights of the SRP focus areas 2020 were comprised of the launches of:

- SRP Assurance Scheme
- On-pack SRP-Verified Label
- New SRP Organization Logo
- SRP Membership Program Manual
- Five-Year Strategic Plan (2021–2025)

As well as the publishing of revised versions of:

- SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation (2.1)
- SRP Performance Indicators (2.1)

Despite the unforeseen disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, farmers of Registered SRP Projects globally were able to participate in SRP training programs utilizing digital tools and using online platforms. Consequently 78,407 farmers, of which 35% were women, participated in capacity-building training.

The Annual Report 2020 also looks at selected indicators for economic, environmental and social impacts of the adoption of the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation at farm level. To be able to generally provide evidence-based reporting for the impacts of adoption of SRP climate-smart, sustainable best practices, the following are essential:

- Scoring compliance according to the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation
- Analyzing and aggregating results
- Visualizing impacts based on SRP Performance Indicators

While a central SRP database for the collection and storage of relevant data for aggregation and analysis is still under development by SRP, Registered SRP Projects globally have started collecting data in accordance with the SRP Performance Indicators.

In line with the SRP Communication Strategy 2018, SRP launched a public awareness campaign (#AMillionThanks and #ChooseSustainableRice) to strengthen its brand awareness and brand equity. The campaign will continue to run until 2023. Beside this campaign, run by the SRP Secretariat, Registered SRP Projects globally launched their own public awareness campaigns to increase awareness and upscale adoption of SRP's climate-smart, sustainable best practices.

SRP's key achievements in 2020 highlighted its Theory of Change for incentivizing wide-scale, farm-level adoption of climate-smart, sustainable best practices and contributing to transformation of the global rice sector, while aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

EVOLUTION OF SRP

SRP was established as a global multi-stakeholder initiative in December 2011 to promote resource efficiency and sustainability in the global rice sector through an alliance that links research, production, policymaking, trade and consumption. Originally co-convened by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) together with private sector partners, SRP has since grown and evolved to include partners from the public and private sectors, plus research and civil society groups, with increasing ambition for the positive impacts that these partnerships can bring to the global rice sector.

In 2018, SRP undertook a strategic visioning exercise to clarify the future direction of the organization. Through surveys, structured interviews and a workshop with its partners and stakeholders, SRP formulated a revised vision, mission, strategic priorities and goals. One key priority was to transition SRP from a partnership hosted by UNEP to an independent entity with legal status in order to fulfill its existing and future responsibilities with regulatory transparency and good governance. An interim board was appointed to guide the process of assessing and selecting a jurisdiction and entity type under which to register, and to facilitate the registration process.

Following a Founding Meeting held on 30 September 2019, attended by 33 institutions of which 26 signed on as Founding Members, SRP was successfully incorporated in January 2020 in Bonn, Germany as an "eingetragener Verein" (e.V.), i.e. a registered voluntary association in which members are the primary constituents. SRP operates under statutory Articles of Association and maintains a registered office in Bonn.

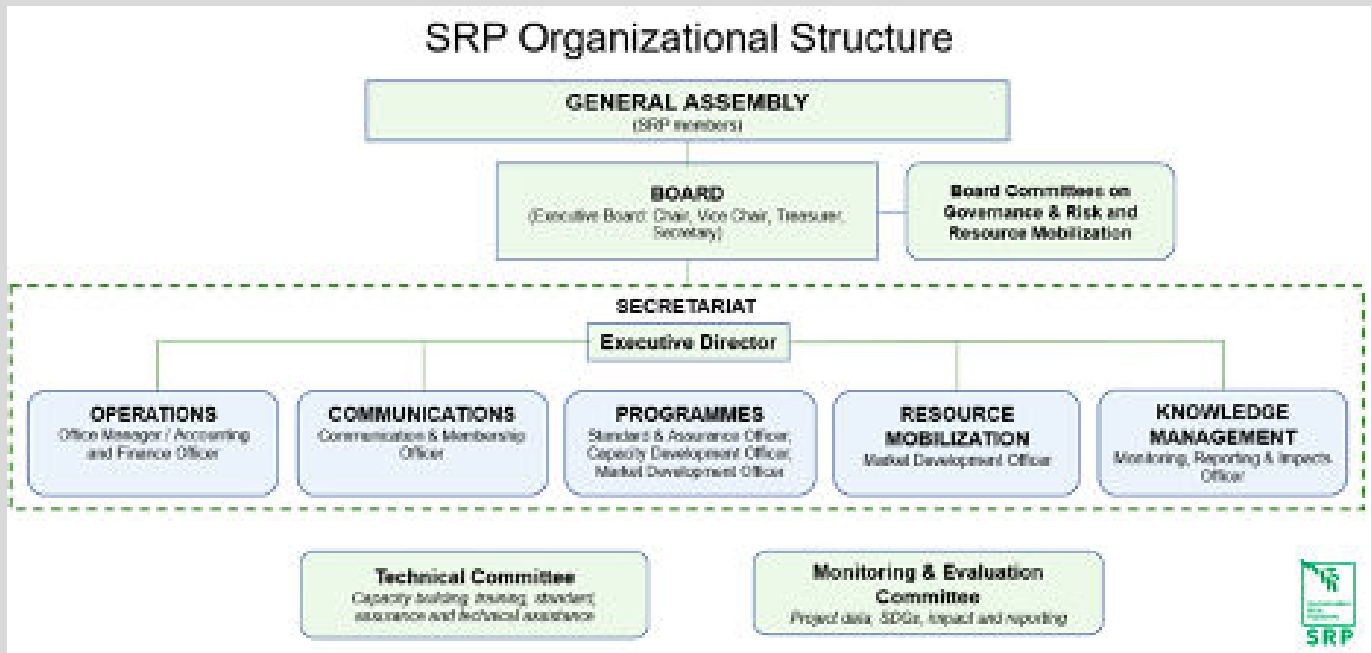


Operationalizing SRP

At the core of SRP are its members. The authority of these members is exercised through the General Assembly, which functions as the highest decision-making body and meets annually to perform statutory functions and provide policy guidance. Reporting to the General Assembly, the SRP Board advises on the strategy and action plans to ensure that SRP achieves its objectives. The SRP Secretariat is responsible for overall management and coordination of SRP's programs, partnerships, communications and resource mobilization initiatives to advance those strategies and action plans. The Technical Committee, and Monitoring & Evaluation Committee allow members to help shape our goals, tools and activities.

Figure 1: SRP organizational structure

NEW ORGANIZATIONAL AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

A new identity

A new SRP Organization Logo and Brand Manual were launched to replace the original versions used since April 2014. The new logo aims to strengthen SRP's brand awareness and brand equity and will ensure that a clear and coherent identity is established across all communication channels.



A new membership structure

The Membership Programme was launched to formalize the engagement of institutions committed to advancing the vision, mission and goals of SRP. The new Membership Programme Manual provides information on membership categories, commitments, value proposition, privileges, annual dues and policies, and includes a defined process plus membership application form.



SRP members which joined prior to the incorporation of the new legal entity in 2019 have been automatically recognized as members with their equivalent prior status under the new structure.

An ambitious strategy for growth



SRP launched its first Five-Year Strategic Plan (2021–2025), setting the organization on a path of growth in the coming years. The plan defines three strategic pillars which provide an overarching framework for action that best leverage the assets of SRP to achieve transformative change within the global rice sector: develop sustainable value chains; create partnerships and incentives for scale; and serve as a knowledge hub.

An active General Assembly

The 2nd Annual General Assembly Meeting (the Founding Meeting served as the 1st Annual General Assembly Meeting) was held on 16 December 2020. Among key statutory decisions, the General Assembly endorsed the Report of the Chairperson for 2020, the Five-Year Strategic Plan (2021–2025), the Annual Action Plan 2021 and Provisional Budget 2021, setting a clear path for the following year's activities.

An Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting was held on 20 May 2021 to address remaining statutory requirements, notably endorsement of the Financial Statement 2020 SRP e.V., Report of the Cash Auditors, Discharge of the SRP Board, Updated Budget 2021 and Provisional Budget Q1 2022.



MEMBERSHIP

SRP's member network continued to grow in 2020 with eight new members joining the association: two new members from the public sector; three from service, input and equipment providers; and three from the category of supply chain actors.

By the end of 2020, SRP had a total of 103 members from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. The SRP membership represented SRP's stakeholder constituencies with 19 members from civil society organizations, 23 members from the public sector, 25 members from the category of service, input and equipment providers and 36 members from the category of supply chain actors.

Figure 2: Number of SRP members by Year (2011-2020)

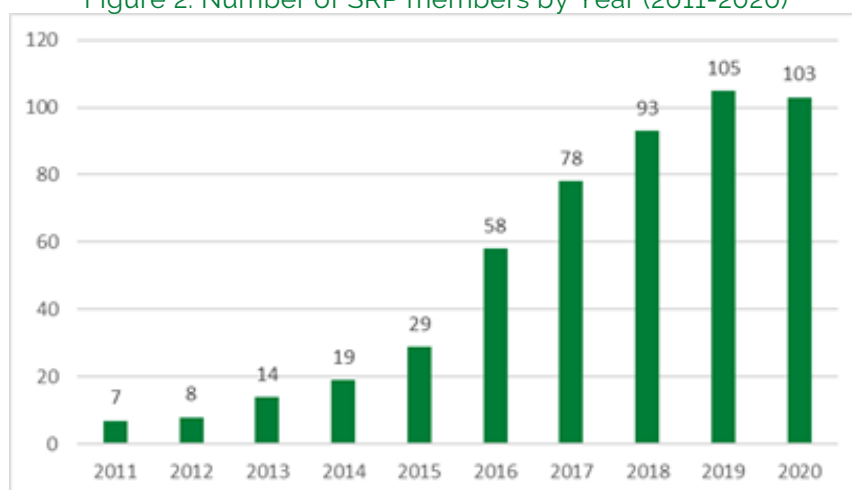
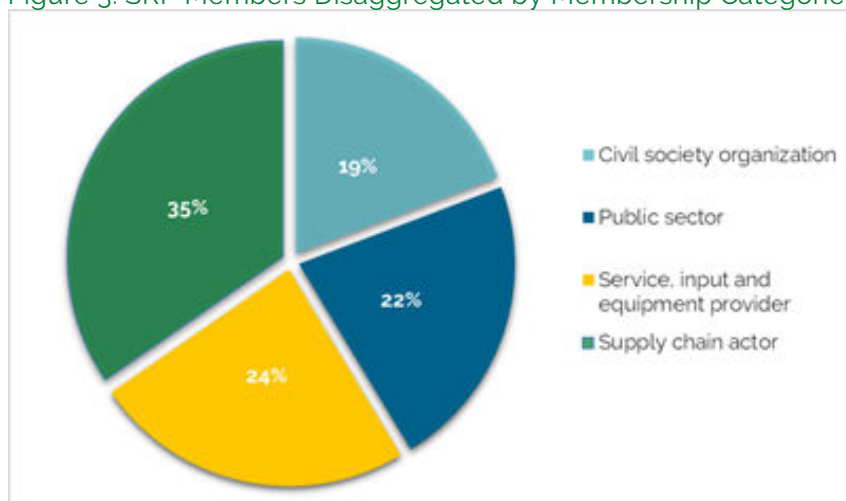


Figure 3: SRP Members Disaggregated by Membership Categories



Since 2011 the membership has seen steady growth among all groups, especially among governmental partners. This strong and diversified membership base allows SRP to work effectively and facilitates consultation across the stakeholder community.

RESPONDING TO THE PANDEMIC

THE LIVES OF FARMERS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Smallholder farmers impacted

COVID-19 emerged in December 2019 without warning as a novel, highly contagious disease. Since then, the pandemic continued to affect millions of people in almost every country of the world. Its impact was felt across all aspects of lives: health, social, economic and political. Containment measures such as travel restrictions, limits on the size of gatherings and stay-at-home lockdown orders caused severe socio-economic impact on the global economy. Farmers, whose incomes are innately highly vulnerable to multiple risks, were among the most vulnerable groups during the long-term health crisis.

Women farmers remained disproportionately impacted

Women farmers remained economically disempowered and disadvantaged compared with men, facing greater challenges in accessing productive resources, services, technologies, markets and financing. These challenges were exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19.



Photo: GIZ Thailand conducted training during the pandemic to demonstrate safety measures, and also distributed free masks.



Photo: Women's Economic Empowerment training in August 2020. As a precaution, SMP provided face masks for participants and the number of participants was kept low. There were no cases of COVID-19 community transmission in Cambodia at the time of this training.

SRP interventions helped build resilience among farmers during the pandemic



Photo: GIZ Thailand conducted the SRP training during the pandemic with the social distancing and other safety precautions



Photo by Olam/GIZ: Female rice farmer

Across most rice-producing regions, the pandemic restricted farmers from managing their farms and engaging in face-to-face SRP capacity-building activities. To help ensure farmers continued to receive the technical support they needed, SRP training courses were migrated to digital media and delivered via online platforms. Chat groups were also introduced to enable farmers to communicate with technical experts.

In recognition of the social, economic and political impacts affecting rice farmers and, additionally, the vulnerability of women farmers, various interventions were implemented by SRP members globally to support and empower them.

In Thailand, SRP member GIZ under the Better Rice Initiative Asia II (BRIA II) provided safety awareness and safety practices training to rice farmers and their families during the pandemic, including guidance on recommended standard operating procedures. Training activities included distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) including masks and alcohol.

These trainings were conducted by Village Health Volunteers (VHVs) who received professional training from the Ministry of Public Health. During the training activities, safety measures were strictly followed including enforcement of social distancing, measuring participants' body temperature, provision of hand sanitizer and compulsory wearing of masks

In Africa SRP member GIZ, under their Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI) project, organized a radio program to raise awareness of COVID-19 prevention and control practices for farmers and their families.



Photo: SRP member Atlas Food, distributed free certified seeds to farmers during the pandemic in Pakistan.

A specific example is support extended to rice farmers without savings who were struggling to buy seeds and fertilizers needed for planting during the pandemic: In Pakistan, under the Farmer Support Programme, Atlas Foods (Pvt) Ltd with partners SRP, Oxfam Pakistan, and Agahe Pakistan distributed free certified seeds and organic fertilizer to farmers to ensure that planting could proceed. Land-levelling operations were also subsidized to support implementation of the alternate wetting and drying (AWD) method by farmers.

Closure of businesses around the world reduced demand for rice, directly affecting farmers' incomes and further increasing their indebtedness. In Mali, SRP member Rikolto reached out to the most vulnerable groups of women and youth, and supported small enterprises led by them for the production of broken rice into flour. The rice flour, mixed with fortified maize and chia, creates a high-nutrient flour which can be used to make children's porridge, biscuits and rice bread.

This local project is expected to transform up to 26 tons of broken rice per month supplied by 750 farmers. Moreover, Rikolto advocated the Mali government to include rice from local farmers for their food distribution program during the pandemic and, as a result, 2,000 tons of locally produced rice were used in the government program.

In Thailand, SRP members also joined hands with the Thai government to mitigate the challenges faced by farmers. TGCP-Agriculture and Thai Rice NAMA under GIZ Thailand collaborated with the Rice Department and the Department of Agricultural Extension, Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives, to find solutions by developing an online agricultural extension system as well as a digital data collection system.

"SRP-Remote"

On-site farm audits were also affected by the inability to travel and SRP developed SRP-Remote, a remote auditing protocol via online digital tools based on a risk assessment approach and case-by-case basis. A six-month extension of the validity of verification audits was also granted for the duration of the pandemic. The remote auditing protocol was successfully deployed by PRIME Agri Ltd in Myanmar to secure the first Level-3 verification in Southeast Asia. SRP-Remote allowed verification to proceed in many situations where physical presence was not possible, and at the same time the robustness and integrity of the audit was maintained through the risk assessment approach, together with the regular oversight provided by GLOBALG.A.P. as SRP's Assurance Service Provider.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FROM SRP'S FOUR FOCUS AREAS

In 2020, SRP focused on four areas for establishing a strong institutional foundation: strengthening SRP's organizational capacity; implementing programs and partnerships following the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, and SRP Performance Indicators; strengthening SRP's value proposition for farmers and value chain stakeholders; and establishing a comprehensive reporting framework.

A. Strengthening organizational capacity

In January 2020, after nine years of hosting by UNEP, SRP was incorporated as an independent legal entity named Sustainable Rice Platform e.V. under German law. Since then, the SRP Board and Secretariat have worked to establish robust operational systems and processes to ensure compliance with German regulatory requirements and principles of good governance.

Milestones included the following:

- Established basic infrastructure for administration and finance for independent operation of SRP, including a bank account and procurement policy
- Established board committees to oversee and establish principles and policies for governance, risk and resource mobilization
- Launched a new organization logo to refresh and strengthen the SRP identity, together with a new on-pack SRP-Verified Label
- Launched a new Membership Programme Manual to communicate all aspects of SRP's membership including member obligations and value proposition
- Launched SRP's first Five-Year Strategic Plan (2021-2025) to prioritize action and guide growth

Additionally, SRP confirmed a new partnership with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Ebro Foods, S.A., Mars Food and Olam International through the develoPPP programme to support organizational strengthening and growth of SRP for the period 2020-2023. Among other measures, this funding enables expansion of Secretariat staff to enhance the level of support to members and the external stakeholder community.

B. Implemented new programs and partnerships following the SRP Standard and Performance Indicators

SRP Standard and Performance Indicators

In January 2020, SRP completed its revision of the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation and the SRP Performance Indicators. Launched as Version 2.1, the updates were based on feedback from farmers and users of Version 1.0 and Version 2.0, and on extensive consultation among members and external stakeholders. The revised versions provide clarification on requirements and methodologies as part of the ongoing effort to improve robustness, relevance and ease of use by farmers and practitioners.



To date, the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, and the SRP Performance Indicators provide the only recognized working definitions for sustainable rice production, and the means of monitoring impacts linked with these definitions.

Member Efforts – Example 1

Rikolto in Uganda continued to push for adoption of the climate-smart, sustainable best practice of SRP in the new Uganda National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) 2021-2030 to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment and other rice sector players. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings were canceled. Nevertheless, Rikolto still sustained advocacy efforts for sustainable rice practice adoption through radio, newspaper and social media channels. The related newspaper article is available at:

<https://www.rikolto.org/en/news/finding-new-ways-promote-sustainable-rice-cultivation-covid-19-times-0>.

SRP Training Programme

In 2020, SRP expanded its SRP Training Programme (launched in 2019) to include three SRP Authorized Training Providers serving wider geographies: The Academy for International Cooperation (AIZ); GLOBALG.A.P. Academy; and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Education. Authorized Training Providers are institutions endorsed by SRP to deliver SRP-approved training courses on the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, SRP Performance Indicators, and SRP Assurance Scheme, and to administer course exams that lead to a certificate of recognition as an SRP Authorized Trainer. These trainers are assigned a unique certification number and are empowered to deliver further training to help upscale training efforts for local trainers and implementers, and farmers.



Photo: Training on SRP rice quality for AC board members by Brico in Cambodia

Responding to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, SRP worked with its providers to adapt training courses for remote delivery, resulting in recognition of nearly 100 new SRP Authorized Trainers in 2020 to support scaling. To date, SRP has recognized 147 SRP Authorized Trainers based in 30 countries.

Member Efforts – Example 2

Atlas Foods (Pvt) Ltd, in Pakistan, and Syngenta Pakistan signed an MOU to impart training to rice growers regarding need-based application of pesticides and the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, thereby avoiding excessive usage of pesticide. The Punjab Government will be launching an ambitious PKR 6 billion project to promote mechanization, usage of certified seed and responsible application of pesticides according to an interview of Director Agriculture (Extension) Gujranwala Javed Iqbal.

Registered SRP Projects

Registered SRP Projects are field projects initiated and managed independently by SRP members and registered in the SRP database. Leaders of Registered SRP Projects agree to report regularly on project progress, and their initiatives can be showcased in communications by SRP across its stakeholder network.

Member Efforts – Example 2

GIZ Thailand, through the Market-oriented Smallholders Value Chain Project Thailand (MSVC TH) in cooperation with the Department of Rice, Olam (Thailand) Company Limited and CROP Life, signed an MOU between smallholder farmers in Ubon Rathchathani province, rice millers and a rice distribution company on 15 October 2020. The MOU highlights the collaboration between key players in Thailand's rice farming sector in implementing the global standard for sustainability in rice cultivation practices.

In 2020, there were 21 Registered SRP Projects using SRP tools to enable and incentivize rice farmers to shift to sustainable farming practices. In total, these projects aim to reach over 420,506 farmers during their implementation, toward SRP's goal to reach one million farmers adopting climate-smart, sustainable practices by 2023.

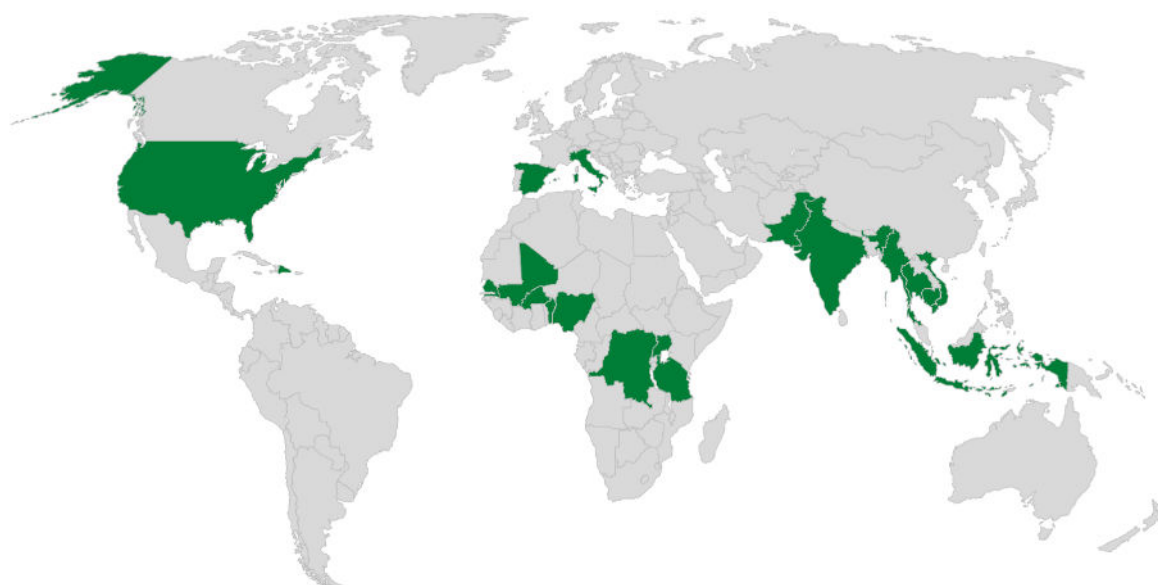
Table 1: Countries in which Registered SRP Projects are implemented in

<i>Geography</i>	<i>Number of projects active in country</i>	<i>Geography</i>	<i>Number of projects active in country</i>	<i>Geography</i>	<i>Number of projects active in country</i>
Africa		Asia		Europe	
Benin	1	Cambodia	3	Italy	1
Burkina Faso	2	India	2	Spain	1
Mali	1	Indonesia	2	Americas	
Nigeria	1	Myanmar	1	Dominican Republic	1
DR Congo	1	Pakistan	2	USA	1
Senegal	1	Thailand	6		
Tanzania	2	Vietnam	4		
Uganda	1				

Two projects concluded during the year, leaving 19 Registered SRP Projects by year-end 2020.

Registered SRP Projects focus on capacity building of farmers and farmer groups to shift to sustainable rice cultivation practices. Projects involve in-person training and technical assistance at field level. Following postponement of planned activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many field level outreach activities were able to resume with strict precautionary safety protocols applied in line with health regulations.

Figure 4: Countries with registered SRP Projects



A total of 13 of the 21 Registered SRP Projects responded to a year-end survey conducted by SRP. Activities of this group of 13 projects spanned 15 countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas. In aggregate these projects reported having trained 78,407 farmers in 2020, altogether reaching 100,789 farmers since their respective start dates. More than 35% of farmers trained were women. Data of the remaining eight Registered SRP Projects are not included in these aggregate figures.

Table 2: Number of farmers trained in 2020 by country/gender

	Female	Male	Total	Percent Women
AFRICA	13,695	37,130	50,825	27%
Benin	169	183	352	48%
Burkina Faso	19	185	204	9%
DR Congo	386	611	997	39%
Mali	22	432	454	5%
Senegal	190	505	695	27%
Tanzania	229	634	863	27%
Uganda	260	1,145	1,405	19%
Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Tanzania	12,420	33,435	45,855	27%
ASIA	13,784	13,743	27,527	50%
Cambodia	40	149	189	21%
Indonesia	1,160	1,060	2,220	52%
Myanmar	312	1,311	1,623	19%
Pakistan	-	753	753	0%
Thailand	10,721	9,012	19,733	54%
Vietnam	1,552	1,457	3,009	52%
AMERICAS	10	45	55	18%
Dominican Republic	10	45	55	18%
TOTAL	27,489	50,918	78,407	35%

C. Strengthening the value proposition for farmers and value chain stakeholders

SRP Assurance Scheme

In September 2020, SRP achieved a major milestone by launching the SRP Assurance Scheme and accrediting its first three SRP Verification Bodies, thereby providing consumers with the new choice of purchasing SRP-Verified rice from retailer shelves. Demand-side action is a vital complement to SRP's farm-level efforts to incentivize widescale adoption of climate-smart, sustainable best practices.

The SRP Assurance Scheme defines rules for actors engaged in measuring compliance or improvements and providing demonstrable evidence of compliance with the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, and the use of SRP trademarks (Claims, Logos or Label) upon achieving verification. The scheme focuses on verification rather than certification, is built on strong internal assessment and provides farm registration and self-assessment as a starting point. SRP joined hands with GLOBALG.A.P. to manage the scheme's operations.

KEY FEATURES

- Three levels of verification, with registration and self-assessment as a starting point
- Focus on verification rather than certification
- Encourages use of producer group internal control mechanisms using an Internal Management System (IMS) Standard
- Complemented by a Chain of Custody Standard
- Managed in partnership with GLOBALG.A.P.

KEY BENEFITS

- A robust, cost-effective, and transparent path to sustainable procurement
- Enables value chain actors to de-risk their supply chains and make measurable contributions to corporate sustainability commitments
- Empowers consumers to help farmers and the environment by choosing SRP-Verified rice
- Catalyzes wide-scale shift to sustainable practices by small farmers, boosting incomes and contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

SRP-Verified Label and Claims



SRP's new on-pack SRP-Verified Label was launched in September 2020 to bring sustainable rice to consumers while helping smallholder farmers connect to stable and rewarding markets, enabling brands and retailers to lead from the front.

The label, a graphic stylization of a rice plant to look like a check mark, represents the integrity of sustainability claims as verified through the SRP Assurance Scheme and is a seal of SRP approval.

The label allows consumers to choose products that directly support SRP's efforts to increase farmer incomes and to reduce the environmental impacts of rice production, thereby also aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

SRP permits use of the SRP-Verified Label only for on-pack communications – such as retail rice packs, and bulk rice sacks or boxes – of products that comply with Level 3 assessment in the SRP Assurance Scheme under product segregation or identity preservation. A claim of sustainable rice cultivation can only be made if a minimum score of 90% is achieved in an audit against the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, together with a minimum score of 75% against the SRP Internal Management System (IMS) Standard for Producer Groups. Supply chain organizations other than producers who at any point own or handle SRP rice must be audited and certified against the SRP Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard in order to be allowed to make SRP claims and use the on-pack SRP-Verified Label.

D. Establishing a reporting framework

Digital data management system

SRP aims to develop a digital data management system for use by the SRP Secretariat, members and partners in gathering and aggregating data from Registered SRP Projects, scoring compliance according to the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, analyzing and aggregating results, and visualizing impacts of best practice adoption based on the SRP Performance Indicators. This work was deferred to 2021 as a key area of collaboration under the develoPPP programme to support SRP organizational strengthening and growth in the period 2020–2023. Once developed, this data management system will be central to collecting, aggregating and credibly reporting the impacts of Registered SRP Projects globally.

SRP National Chapters

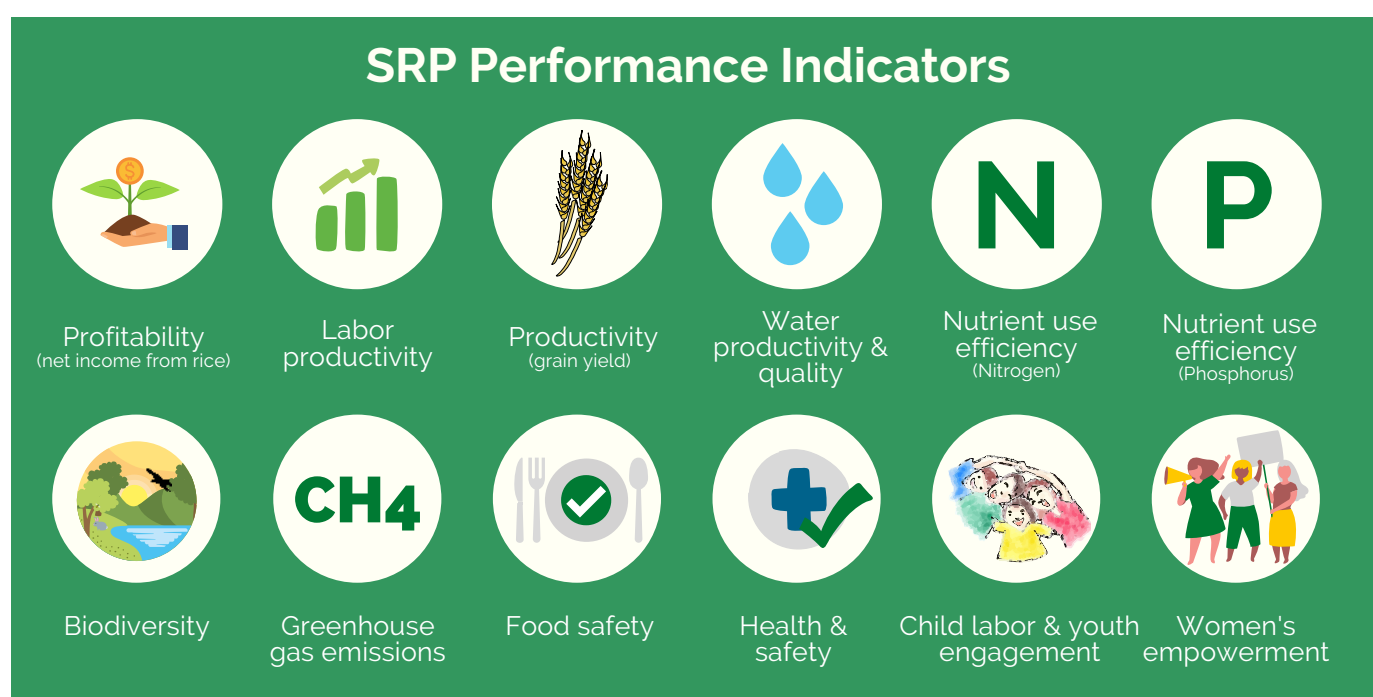
Two countries, Thailand and Cambodia, made progress towards establishing SRP National Chapters to upscale local adoption and country-level impacts.

Thailand: In 2019, GIZ Thailand received the SRP Secretariat's endorsement to establish a Thailand National Chapter. The Thailand National Working Group (NWG) was subsequently formed, and GIZ was endorsed by the SRP Board as the host organization. An inaugural Thailand NWG meeting was held to agree on the vision, mission and working arrangements. In 2020 momentum continued to grow with the Thailand NWG working in subgroups to define priority topics, culminating in agreement of goals and activities at the second Thailand NWG meeting in October 2020, followed by submission of an initial work plan to the Secretariat.

Cambodia: In September 2020, the General Directorate of Agriculture submitted a proposal to initiate establishment of a Cambodia National Chapter. This request was endorsed by the SRP Secretariat in the same month, and efforts to convene the Cambodia National Working Group have since continued.

OUR IMPACTS

The SRP Performance Indicators offer a versatile tool to deepen our understanding of the effectiveness of individual interventions at farm level, as well as any synergies and trade-offs. They comprise of 12 major indicators: profitability (net income); labor productivity; productivity (yield); water productivity and quality; nutrient use efficiency (nitrogen); nutrient use efficiency (phosphorus); biodiversity; greenhouse gas emissions; food safety; worker health and safety; child labor and youth engagement; and women's empowerment.



While the SRP digital data management system remains in development, SRP members engaged in field-level Registered SRP Projects already collect baseline and seasonal data on farmer practice and key outcomes as a basis for assessing impacts of adoption of the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, according to the SRP Performance Indicators. Examples are provided below.

Economic Impact

Profitability: Farmers' net income from rice (Performance Indicator No. 1)

Higher net income leads to the increased capacity of rice smallholders to pay for food, health services and education in their households, improving their livelihoods. It also leads to increased ability for farmers to invest in farm activities, leading to more income in the following season.

The SRP Performance Indicators are the most-often tracked and quantified indicators of projects, in line with the vision of SRP and its members to improve smallholder livelihood and resilience. Based on reporting by Registered SRP Projects, smallholders shifting to climate-smart, sustainable best practice as advocated under the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation saw increased results from rice production in all contexts, including net income:

- Six projects in Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam measured an increase in net incomes of **17 - 60.02% compared to 2017–2018 baseline levels among the same group of farmers**.
- Two projects in Cambodia and Dominican Republic documented higher net incomes among farmers adopting SRP practices, with SRP farmers earning **25 - 57.6% more per hectare than conventional farmers** producing the same crop in the same area, during the same season.
- One project in Pakistan determined a net income increase of 1.79% compared to the same group of target farmers during the previous season (2019).

Though additional understanding of context is required to fully understand the factors contributing to these reported values, the consistently positive direction is noteworthy.

Environmental Impact

Water productivity and quality (Performance Indicator No. 4)

In irrigated rice systems, adopting climate-smart, sustainable water management practices can reduce the amount of water required to produce one kilogram of paddy rice. Water management efficiency is critical in a world of finite resources where rice cultivation consumes 30-40% of freshwater globally, and global water scarcity is increasing.

Four projects working in irrigated production systems reported initial findings on their water savings from application of context-specific climate-smart, sustainable or low-emission practices:

- Three projects in Thailand documented a **29.73 - 50% reduction in irrigation water use compared to a 2018 baseline level**, from farmers' application of land leveling in conjunction with AWD methods, based on data collection in a survey of 10,017 farmers.
- One project in Pakistan recorded a **0.92% decrease in irrigation water use compared with the previous season (2019)**, based on working with 753 farmers applying climate-smart water management practices.

Social Impact

Food safety (Performance Indicator No. 9)

Safer food reduces exposure to specific contaminants typically found in rice and leads to a healthier population.

Three Registered SRP Projects reported working with farmers to assess food safety risks for rice production using the SRP Scorecard as per Performance Indicator No. 9. The objective was to promote farmer awareness of food safety risks and the expected risk reduction from shifting to practices in the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation. The results indicated that farmer awareness of food safety risks and mitigation measures **increased by 100% in Thailand (in a survey of 1,213 farmers), 70% in Cambodia (in a survey of 189 farmers), and 22.32% in Pakistan (in a survey of 753 farmers) following participation in training and capacity-building measures**, as compared to respective baselines.

COMMUNICATION

SCALING UP FOR WIDER ADOPTION OF CLIMATE-SMART SUSTAINABLE BEST PRACTICE

Public Awareness Raising

A Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) Toolkit in Thai language was created and distributed to Thai rice stakeholders. The toolkit helps promote the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation in a user-friendly method and covers the following topics:

- Thai translation of the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation
- Handbook for Smart Officers to help design and conduct farmer training on the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation
- Handbook for Smart Farmers on how to apply sustainable best practices in rice cultivation and help fellow farmers in his or her community to do the same
- Easy-to-understand cartoon storybooks, handouts and posters on the benefits that farmers will gain from switching to sustainable best practices
- Folk-style songs on sustainable rice cultivation practices

The toolkit is available at: [MATERIALS | Sustainable Agrifood System in ASEAN \(asean-agrifood.org\)](https://materials.srp-agrifood.org/).

GIZ Thailand promoted the sustainable rice cultivation system on a national television channel through the interview: "Promoting the improvement of Thai rice farming and shifting the sector toward greater sustainability". The video recording is available on YouTube: [Thailand Today2021 EP13: "BRIA-IPM-Thailand: The Shift to Sustainable Farming"](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

Consumer Awareness

Targeting consumers and social media-savvy youth, SRP launched the #AMillionThanks campaign in July 2020 to share messages of thanks between sustainable rice stakeholders, in order to highlight the crucial role and benefits of sustainable rice production for the environment, farmer livelihoods and global food security.

This was followed by the #ChooseSustainableRice campaign in November 2020, which engaged UN Goodwill Ambassadors in Southeast Asia to educate public audiences on the benefits of sustainable rice and to promote the SRP brand as one that signifies positive contributions to society by increasing farmers' income, reducing water consumption, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and improving quality of rice crops.

Together, these campaigns delivered its messages to over 1.3 million people and, today, continue to generate engagement on Facebook and Instagram.

**1,3 Mio.
reached**

through social media

#AMillionThanks



Image: Instagram post for the #ChooseSustainableRice campaign



Image: Instagram post displaying the Sustainable Rice Family for the #ChooseSustainableRice campaign

FINANCIAL REPORT

In January 2020, SRP was incorporated as "eingetragener Verein" (e.V.), an independent legal entity in Bonn, Germany. SRP adopted the calendar year as its fiscal year and, as such, 2020 is the first calendar year for which SRP undertook full management of its finances with the ability and obligation to report on its finances.

A Financial Statement 2020 for SRP was prepared by the SRP Board Treasurer and is appended below.

Financial Statement 2020 SRP e.V.

Income and Expenditures 2020

EXPENSES	114,615
1. Secretariat operations	69,109
1.1. Human resources	58,294
1.2. Office rent	0
1.3. Travel	0
1.4. Communications	10,816
2. Programme implementation	43,171
2.1. Membership programme	12,082
2.2. Assurance scheme	6,856
2.3. Retailer engagement strategy (TM, Branding)	24,234
3. Various	2,335
3.1. Overhead costs UN 13%	0
3.2. Contingency 5%	2,335
INCOME	269,791
4.1. Annual member dues	253,275
4.2. Assurance/royalties	0
4.3. Authorised Training + other	16,491
4.4. Other income	25
RESULT	155,176

Cash Flow 2020

	VolksBank €
Opening Balance 01/01/2020	0
in	269,791
out	114,615
Closing Balance calculated 31/12/2020	155,176
Closing Balance in statements bank/UN	179,666
differences	-24,490

Reconciliation

VB Reversal misrouted transfer on suspense bank account

Overview Membership Dues 2020

Invoiced	446,250
Paid	253,275
Outstanding	192,250

Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting of the Sustainable Rice Platform e.V. – 20 May 2021

In 2020, income totaled EUR 269,791 comprising of two streams:

- Annual member dues (93.89% of total income)
- Global training programme (6.11% of total income)

Annual member dues are assessed according to stakeholder category (non-paying categories: public sector, civil society organization; paying categories: supply chain actor, service/input/equipment provider) and also by size (micro, small, medium, large, retailer), as defined in the Membership Programme Manual.

Income from the global training program represents contributions from SRP Authorized Training Providers to SRP to strengthen the global training program and capacity-building services. SRP Authorized Training Providers are institutions endorsed by SRP to deliver training on SRP normative tools to expand the cadre of qualified trainers available to conduct training, farmer outreach and verification activities in support of SRP objectives.

Per the Articles of Association, two cash auditors elected by the General Assembly conducted an audit of the organization's bookkeeping and reported no discrepancies. The General Assembly, in the Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting of SRP held on 20 May 2021, resolved to discharge the Board on the basis of the accounts, cash auditor report and related documents.

APPENDIX

Appendix I: SRP Member List 2020 (as of 31 December 2020)

No	Organization	Country
1	Africa Rice Center	Côte d'Ivoire
2	Agricultural Food and Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific	Thailand
3	AgroFrontera	Dominican Republic
4	AKC Commodities, Inc	United States
5	Alliance for Water Stewardship	United Kingdom
6	Allied Development Corporation	Vietnam
7	Al-Wahab Rice Mills (Pvt) Ltd	Pakistan
8	AMRU Rice (Cambodia) Ltd	Cambodia
9	Asian Center of Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture Intensification, Asian Institute of Technology	Thailand
10	Atlas Food (Pvt.) Ltd.	Pakistan
11	Atlas Trade Solutions	Thailand
12	Barefoot Lightning Ltd	United Kingdom
13	Battambang Rice Investment Co Ltd	Cambodia
14	Bayer	Singapore
15	Better Grain Ltd	United Kingdom
16	Breta Consulting Corporation	Philippines
17	Buani Group I	Malaysia
18	Center for Fertilization and Plant Nutrition	Israel
19	Center for Organic Development	Cambodia
20	Center for Sustainable Rural Development	Vietnam
21	Clarmondial AG	Switzerland
22	Control Union Co. Ltd.	Netherlands
23	Corteva Agriscience	Singapore
24	CropIn Technology Solutions Pvt Ltd	India
25	Dept of Agriculture / PhilRice, Philippines	Philippines
26	Dept of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines	Philippines
27	Directorate General of Food Crops, Indonesia	Indonesia
28	Ebro Foods	Spain
29	Ecocert	France
30	Fairtrade International	Germany
31	Foodtech Solutions (Thailand) Co., Ltd.	Thailand
32	Galaxy Rice Mills (Pvt) Ltd	Pakistan
33	GlZ	Germany
34	Global Rice Sourcing Co Ltd	Pakistan
35	GLOBALG.A.P.	Germany
36	Golden Rice Co Ltd	Cambodia
37	Golden Sunland	Singapore
38	GrainPro	Philippines
39	Grameen Foundation, USA	United States
40	HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation	Switzerland
41	Indonesian Center for Food Crops Research and Development	Indonesia

42	Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development	Vietnam
43	Instituto Nacional de Investigacion (INIA) Uruguay	Uruguay
44	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) aka World Agroforestry Centre	Kenya
45	International Finance Corporation	United States
46	International Plant Nutrition Institute	India
47	International Potash Institute	Switzerland
48	International Rice Research Institute	Philippines
49	Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.	India
50	Jebsen & Jessen Southeast Asia	Thailand
51	Khao C.P. Co.	Thailand
52	KisanKraft	India
53	Koninklijke Ahold Delhaize NV	Netherlands
54	Lidl Stiftung & Co KG	Germany
55	Loc Troi Group Joint Stock Company	Vietnam
56	LT Foods Limited	India
57	MAP Rice Mills	Pakistan
58	Mars Food	Belgium
59	Matco Foods (Pvt) Ltd	Pakistan
60	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam	Vietnam
61	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, Cambodia	Cambodia
62	Natcap Sustainable Solutions	Brazil
63	Natural Rice Co Pty Ltd	Australia
64	Nature Pearls Pvt Ltd	India
65	Nestle Paddy Rice Club	Malaysia
66	Nestle Thailand	Thailand
67	Netafim Ltd	Israel
68	Network for Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA)	Thailand
69	NRSP Agriculture Processing Company Limited	Pakistan
70	Olam International	Singapore
71	Orillion	New Zealand
72	Pakistan Agriculture Research Council	Pakistan
73	Partners in Prosperity Society	India
74	Preferred by Nature	Denmark
75	Prime Agri Technologies	Myanmar
76	Provivi, Inc.	United States
77	Punjab Agricultural University	India
78	Quality Certification Services	United States
79	QualySense AG	Switzerland
80	REEDS Pakistan	Pakistan
81	Reismuhle Brunnen Co Ltd	Switzerland
82	Rice Department of Thailand	Thailand
83	Rice Exchange	Singapore
84	RICE TILLER - Cheshinovo	Macedonia
85	Rikolto	Belgium
86	Saahtain Asia	Brunei
87	SarVision	Netherlands
88	Shivrai Technologies Pvt Ltd	India
89	Solidaridad	Netherlands
90	SunRice	Australia

91	Syngenta	Singapore
92	Taj Food Pvt Ltd	Pakistan
93	TAN-EU Capital Ltd	Hong Kong
94	UN Environment	France
95	UN Women	Thailand
96	Upland Rice Millers Co Ltd	Uganda
97	Van Sillevoldt Rijst B.V.	Netherlands
98	VBS Agrotech Rt Ltd	India
99	VSO Cambodia	Cambodia
100	Westmill Foods Co Ltd	United Kingdom
101	Wildlife Conservation Society (CAM)	Cambodia
102	Winrock International	United States
103	WWF Pakistan	Pakistan

Appendix II: References to SRP Documentation

Articles of Association:

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Articles-of-Association-20210219.pdf>

Brand Manual:

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/601-SRP-Brand-Manual-2020.pdf>

Financial Statement 2020 SRP e.V.:

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Financial-Statement-2020-and-Discharge-of-Board.pdf>

Five-Year Strategic Plan (2021–2025):

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/SRP-Strategic-Plan-2021-2025.pdf>

Membership Programme Manual:

https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/602-SRP-Membership-Programme-Manual-v1.1-July-2021_RALEWAY.pdf

SRP Assurance Scheme:

https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/301-SRP-Assurance-Scheme-v1.3_ND.pdf

SRP Performance Indicators (2.1):

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/203-SRP-Performance-Indicators-Version-2.1.pdf>

SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation (2.1):

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/103-SRP-Standard-Version-2.1.pdf>

SRP's Theory of Change:

<https://www.sustainablerice.org/our-impacts/>