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Message from the Programme Director

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of Metta Development Foundation for 2003 - 2004 fiscal year. This report does not presume to give a complete picture of Metta's activities, but it is hoped that it will at least capture some of the energy, dedication and vitality with which Metta is striving to enable communities in Myanmar determine and realise their livelihood.

The progress made in each of Metta's programme during the year is outlined in this report. While the increase in community-initiated projects indicates the success of our training programme, increased project funds reflect the capacity of local communities to manage the funds made available to them.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all friends and partners for their help and support in the past year. We look forward to their continued support as we believe the concept of community based projects lends itself readily to the creation of civil society in Myanmar.

Seng Raw

Programme Director Yangon, 01 June 2004



PAR & DMT

develop capacity of communities in all stages of development work

Participatory Action Research (PAR) and Development Management Training (DMT) form the basis of Metta field work. The PAR course provides participants with the basis tools needed for identifying their resource and needs. DMT, as its follow up, supplements the training with skills in planning and managing individual projects.

PAR & DMT Training sites during March 2003 - April 2004



3 Training at 3 Townships in Shan State 1 Training at 1 Township in Kayah State 1 Training at 1 Township in Kayin State 2 Training at 2 Townships in Kachin State

In addition, a total of 24 Development Awareness given in

Shan State Kayah State Kachin State Between April 2003
and March 2004, 213
community representatives
of who 91 are women , have
completed PAR training.
A further 14 women and
25 men have accomplished
DMT while 345 women and
532 men have participated
in Development Awareness
Training within this period.
Trocaire

- A total of 5,054 community members of who 2,117 are women have participated in the training from 1998 onwards. Among them 45 women and 95 men have completed TOT.
- The 98 projects currently in progress and those planned for future implementation are outcomes of these courses.

(See Page 14 for Training and Development of Metta Personnel)



Community-based Projects

Metta's role here is to support the PAR training alumni in setting up & implementing community-based projects.

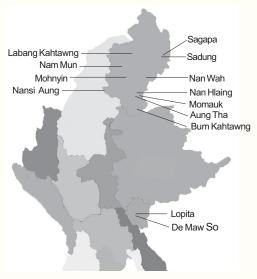
Project Approach

Metta is the project holder but local management committees elected by project participants manage the day-to-day running of the projects. Individual projects in turn are grouped into units according to geographical location with unit managers coordinating the projects.

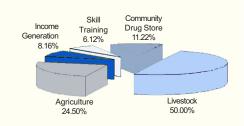
The project committee holds monthly meetings while unit managers visit them quarterly to discuss and coordinate projects.

These units are strengthening their management capacity and are in the process of forming their own local development organisations. Norwegian People's Aid

There are 98 such projects currently in progress, 17 of them managed by women. Supported by CCFD, Oxfam-Hong Kong, Novib, Swissaid, British Embassy, Terre des hommes, Trocarie and German Agro Action, the project activities include livestock raising, rice bank, buffalo bank, poultry farming, cultivation of groundnut, pigeon pea, sourfruit 'cydonia catheyensis', 'shaw kaw' Chinese anise, seasonal vegetable, evergreen firewood as well as orange and grapefruit orchard.



Of the 98 community-based projects implemented since 1998, 14 are initiated during 2003-2004



Number of Community-based Projects implemented since 1998 till now

77 at 13 Townships in Kachin State

11 at 5 Townships in Shan State

5 at 2 Townships in Kayah State

1 at 1 Township in Kayin State

1 at 1 Township in Chin State

2 at 2 Townships in Sagaing Division

1 at 1 Township in Mandalay Division

Direct Beneficiaries: 26,342



What is actually happening among the people being assisted

Observation of an External Evaluator

"As an external research evaluator, I had the opportunity of studying how rural communities in upper Myanmar are rebuilding their lives through community development projects funded by various foreign donors and managed by Metta Development Foundation.

It is evident that community development work has provided opportunities for people to work together to achieve defined goals and interests, such as food self-sufficiency, income generation, vocational education, employment, primary healthcare promotion, child care and so on.

Through participatory development, people at the grassroots level have come together to identify their community needs and problems and make decisions on how to resolve these needs and problems. Committee members are selected to oversee the projects and conduct internal monitoring & evaluation from time to time to improve project performance. It is fair to say that participatory community development work has strengthened local leadership and community-based organisations to carry out their development tasks with the use of locally available resources - social capital and natural resources and appropriate financial and technical support from outside." Dr Ratana Tosakul-Boonmathya, Khon Kaen University, Thailand



Despite care and regular vaccination, Gam Mai Jan (above) and her family of 7 have lost one buffalo to disease. Being landless, the family has handed over the remaining buffalo to another participant who also had only one buffalo. After discussion with the project committee, the casual labourer family will be recompensed in some way. Metta makes every effort to work with the communities to improve their situation, and Gam Mai Jan's situation has already improved because she has not needed to hire a buffalo last season.



View From Metta M&E Team

The achievement and needs of the projects have been identified and reviewed through annual evaluation in the form of site visit and focus group discussion with project participants and project committee members in Kayah State, Kayin State, Kachin State and Shan State. The 9 project communities that have completed their pilot project duration, have identified and formulated future extension activities, complementary to their initial projects.



40 Kayan & Kayah ethnic participants of Sobawthe, a collective village in De Maw So Township, Kayah State, raise pigs to acquire regular income & enough food.

Findings

- 1. The project villages have begun with livelihood projects but they have extended towards other areas of needs like healthcare, Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD), drinking water supply, women's development, forest conservation, savings and loan, etc.
- Yield of products due to unusual climatic condition, low price and fluctuating market has generated only limited income.
- 3. Some activities like rice bank and buffalo bank have long-term positive effects but pig raising activity results in very little gain in some areas where pork market is controlled and pig feed too expensive.

Recommendations

- 1. Metta will facilitate and offer basic animal healthcare training to ensure more successful livestock raising.
- 2. A topic on marketing is to be included in the DMT to equip participants with better market knowledge.
- 3.Participatory Impact Monitoring and Evaluation (PIME) training will be given to project managers so that they could access and identify the effect and impact of their projects on their own.



Women's Development Programme

In Women's Development programme, enhancing women's capacity is the main activity and this initiative focuses on promoting an active role for women in society through PAR, DMT and TOT. Consequently PAR training as well as skills training for Fruit Preservation, Savings and Loan, Handicraft, Basic Animal Husbandry and Development Management Training have been offered.

During the period of April 2000 and March 2004, 357 women have accomplished different training. Some of these training alumni now work as development project managers, taking part in the development programme of local organisation or set up and operate self help savings and loan group in order to improve thir respective communities.

In the PAR Follow-up Discussion 17 alumni from Kachin State participated to plan and coordinate future activities. They will also promote networking among one another as they come from different parts of the State.

Group Work During Training



Pa Nga Village, Mon State



Women husking corn in Lweekahti Village, Kayah State



2004

Early Childhood Care & Development Programme

The project includes an Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) awareness training of community leaders, ECCD committee management training, the training of teachers for the ECCD centres, and of ECCD facilitators for parent education. The emphasis is on health and nutrition, water and sanitation, early detection and prevention of disabilities, an environment free from pollution and other hazards, education, and the empowerment of women.



Children playing together, Hai Na Lay Village, Shan State

The Early Childhood Care and Development has been implemented as a programme of Metta at the request of communities.

The essence of this programme is to facilitate holistic development opportunities for children from the time of conception till 5 years of age.

For the project first year in 2003 the basic needs of child development for 875 children under 5 years of age from 15 villages of 8 townships in Kachin State and Shan State have been fulfilled. Moreover, it raises the development awareness of the communities as well as encourages their cooperation and commitment. 15 new villages have been chosen for the second project in year 2004 and training activities have already begun. The project aims to reach out to 45 communities within 3 years. NOVIB



Facilitator conducting Parent Education in Hka Kum Village,
Waing Maw Township, Kachin State



Community-managed Healthcare Programme



The programme trains selected villagers to become Village Health Workers (VHW). They are taught to administer medicine and monitor proper dosage. Patients are charged minimal payment for the medicines to ensure sustainability of the programme. The medicines are replenished regularly and the VHW keep careful account of the stock as well as daily income. Talks on basic healthcare and personal hygiene are also given to the community.

The programme started in 1999 and up till March 2004,11 drug stores have been established with follow-up training conducted



Data Collection by Village Health Workers, Sadung, Kachin State

Trained: 224 Village Health Workers

Treated: 23,627 cases

at each place after one year. 3 new drug store were set up between March 2003 and March 2004 at Sadung village in Wai Maw Township, Labang Kahtawng village in Mogaung Township and Bum Kahtawng in Bamaw Township all in Kachin State. CCFD

8



RURAL RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

aims to support war-weary peoples attempting to construct peace, promote rehabilitation & reconstruction

Water Supply

Two types of drinking water supply system for health and sanitation have been implemented. One is digging and constructing water wells and the other is a gravity flow system. Water is carried along pipes from distant water sources, usually streams and springs, using diversion water tanks and ground water storage tanks.



Since 2000 Water Supply has been accomplished in 10 Townships in 5 States:

- 43 wells
- 9 gravity flow systems
- 3 spring water collection systems

March 2003 - March 2004

5 wells have been dug in Nan Yah Village, Hpakant Township, Kachin State for 76 households. Nina & John Cassils

A gravity flow water supply system has been constructed at Hka Nan and Nam Kut Villages in Northern Shan State to benefit 83 households with a population of nearly 500. Ärzte für die Dritte Welt

A similar system is constructed at Lang Ghu Village, Kayin State. Ms Audrey Howatson

Metta is prioritising spring water collection followed by watershed management at Wun Ye in Southern Shan State as well as Sadung and Sinlum in Kachin State, benefitting directly some 1,270 villagers of the three villages. German Agro Action





Farmer Field School for Sustainable Agriculture

The farmer field school (FFS) is a season-long training of farmers involving participatory activities, hands-on analysis and decision-making. The field school trainer plays the role of a facilitator rather than an instructor. The objective of the field schools is to give farmers an opportunity to learn and achieve greater control over the conditions they face daily in their fields. Farmers who participate in field schools learn how to reduce their use of pesticides, improve water management and soil fertility, enhance their yields and increase incomes. From this initial base, farmers can move into other crops and diversify into other activities related to their agro-ecosystems.

In Kachin State in Myanmar, the Farmer Field School for Sustainable Agriculture Development programmme began in January 2001, coordinated by Metta Development Foundation and implemented by staff and facilitators from various local groups. The introduction of FFS has forged a united front of farmers, local leaders, village heads, and government officials in the common pursuit of development. Field Day presents a unique opportunity for the community to come together and discuss future development on the basis of what they have learnt and shared at FFS.





Field Day: Visits between Neighbours

The ultimate aim of the field school is to improve farmers' knowledge and decision-making abilities so they can build up sustainable agricultural systems and enhance food security in their families and communities.



In November-December 2003, a 3-week independent evaluation aimed to assess the results and impacts of the FFS activities and the levels of improvement in farmers knowledge, analysis, management, and decision-making capacity was conducted by Debbie Aung Din Taylor (Private Consultant) and Murielle Morisson (GRET).

The findings include:

- 89 FFS facilitators trained, 258 FFS organised, with 5,202 farmers involved, including special Farmer-Led Extension training for 51 farmer leaders.
- The average FFS of 20-30 farmers reaching 15-85% of the village households in 3 years.
- Farmers clearly articulating new knowledge on quality seed selection, early transplanting, seedlings producing many tillers, soil improvement and water usage.
- Average increase in paddy production/acre being 30-165% with new methods, all organic, specifically System of Rice Intensification (SRI) at no increased cost.
- Average farmer income increasing US\$ 120 or 56 baskets per crop. With neighboring farmers adopting the new methods, the roll-on effect can be very significant.
- Farmers making new investment decisions, gradually increasing acreage under SRI methods, planning and rehabilitating abandoned fields, and growing more confident in their decision making.

Detailed report available on Metta website www.metta-myanmar.org

The Year 2004 has been designated the International Year of Rice. Accordingly, Metta in cooperation with national and international development organisations, non-state agencies and local farmers, is striving to achieve even higher goals in 2004 than in previous years.

Metta will provide support for farmers with grazing management, irrigation, small-scale innovations wherever possible.



Upland Project in Sadung and PaO Regions





Training Sites: Nong Hkam, PaO region, Shan State

Sadung, Kachin State

Based on the success and experience in Kachin over the past 3 years, as of 2003, the project has been expanded to PaO region in Shan State and Sadung in eastern Kachin State. It aims to improve the overall capacity of farmers living in mountainous areas through the introduction of crop-based sustainable and integrated farming system to encourage farmers to disengage from opium cultivation.

Accordingly, 90 facilitators to assist the establishment of FFS within their communities have been offered the season-long Training of Trainers course (TOT). They are to set up FFS in 300 communities, half in PaO and half in Kachin State within the five-year project period. Training methodology is a non-formal educational approach with field studies, debates, discussion, presentations, brainstorming, group work, role-plays, workshops, and seminars.

The training fields demonstrate solid improvements in basic food security, strengthen health and nutritional standard, as well as enhance cash income for participants to be disseminated to communities. The Nursery centre at the training sites produce and distribute seeds and seedlings for the facilitators. The production of rice cultivated in an acre of lowland study field is doubled through System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Likewise, vegetables harvested from ordinary household premises double their yield, ensuring enough supply for family consumption. The yield of crops grown in a four-acre fragile, upland area, using appropriate crops and methodologies produces similar or even greater income than opium.

* Principles of SRI

Rice plants perform better with:

- · careful transplanting, usually single seedling per hill, to minimise trauma, and
- · wider spacing, for canopy and root growth, of
- young seedlings, usually 10-12 days old so that the rice plants' growth potential will be preserved.

Rice performs better in soil that is:

- · well-aerated during the vegetative growth period, through
- · careful water management with alternate irrigation and
- · mechanical weeding with rotating hoe
- · enriched microbiologically through compost and different (SRI) plant/soil/water/nutrient.





Food security, improved health and nutrition as well as higher cash Income begins in the rice field.

Training and Development of Metta Personnel (2003-2004)

attempt to assesses the potential of office staff and field managers and use to their utmost appropriate training are provided as and when needed.

No.	Name	Positon	Training Title	Date & Place Partner
1.	Brang Awng	Unit Manager	- Programme Plannin Workshop	2227MAR0,4CARD, Alam, Myitkyina
2.	Eh Hmwe	Computer Clerk	- English Basic Conversation Course - English Intermediate Course	15MAR26APR0,4Davars College, Bangalore, India 05MAY30JUN04 Davars College, Bangalore, India
3	Ei Shwe Sin	Assistance Office Coordinator	- Participatory Action Research Training	1022NOV03 Metta Development Foundaţidiaunggyi
4	Hkawn Ja	Training Coordinator	- Master in Development Studi	SEP02-OCT03 Kimmage Mandbublin, Ireland
5	Ja Nu	Training Coordinator	- Fruit Preservation	14JUN01JUL03 YMCAÇhiang Pai, Thailand
6	Morine Po	Project Secretary	- Organisational Development	0307FEB0,4AIDMAT, Yango
7	Nu Hkawn	Office Coordinator	- Adult Core English 3 - Adult Core English 4 - Business Correspondence - Selfhelp Training for Women centered Healthcare I	21APR28MAY03 USIS, Yangon 09JUN18JUL03 USIS, Yangon 28JUN-19JUL03 British Coundiangon 22AUG04SEP03 Myitkyina
8	Nyi Nyi Zaw	Internal Auditor	- Organisational Development - Diploma in Business Law	0.307FEB04AIDMAT, Yangon NOV02SEP03 University of Yangon
9	Ne Oo	Unit Manager	- Programme Planning Worksho	2227MAR04ÇARD, Alam, Myitkyina
10 11	Naw Awng Saw Min Naing	Unit Manager Assistance Programme Coordinator	- Programme Planning Worksho - Needs Assessment	2227MAR04CARD, Alam, Myitkyina 2025MAY03 Metta Development FoundațioMyitkyina
12 13	San San Hlaing Theinny Oo	Accountant Project Secretary	Adult Core English 3Report WritingAdult Core English 3Gender Analysis	21APR30MAY03 USIS, Yangon 0 1-08JUN03, British Council, Yangon 21APR30MAY03 USI, Yangon 0 8-10JAN04, SWISSAIMangon
			- Proposal Development	1 416JAN0@NAIDS, Yangon
14	Tang Gun	Driver	Logical Framework Workshop - Social Development Leadership Course	JUL-DEC03 SEARSOLIN, The Philippines
15	S.Wai Zin Aung	Computer Clerk	- Gender - English Conversation Course I	0 405JUL03 SWISSAID, Yangon 22SEP026DEC04Davar's College
			- Englsh Conversation Course II	Bangalore, India 01MAR22APR04 Davars College,Bangalore, India
16	Zau Ja	Unit Manager	- AMS (Arena Multimedia Specialist) Course - Programme Plannint/Vorkshop	O1SEP0@3JUN04 Arena Multimedia Centre, Bangalore,ianc 2 227MAR04CARD, Alam, Myitkyina
			- Organisational Development	0307FEB04, AIDMAT, Yangon



Networking among Local & International Organisations

making maximum use of agencies and organisations already active in the country

Partner	Metta Representative	Programme	Date & Place
Anglican Diocese of Myitkyina Catholic Diocese of Myitkyina Kachin Baptist Convention Artsen Zonder Grenzen Medicines du Monde Population Services International UNDP UNICEF YMCA World Concern Shalom Foundation	Seng Raw, Programme Director Lu Ja, Programme Coordinato Morine Po, Project Secretary Humayun Kabir, Facilitator Alex La Awng, Liaison Naw Ja, FFS Coordinator	Meeting oDevelopment Organisations	25JUN03 Shalom Centre, Myitkyina Kachin State
Mon Women Organisation	Morine Po, Project Secretary Theinny Oo, Project Secretary	External Evaluation for Mon WomenOrganisation (MWO) Project	25JUL12AUG03 Mon State
SWISSAID	Theinny Oo, Project Secretary Saw Min Naing, Assistant Programme Coordinator	Partner Organisation Meetin	20AUG03 Yangon
Save the Children US	Theinny Oo, Project Secretary	Seminar on ECCD Programme Impact Study	16NOV03 Hotel Nikko, Yangon
Shalom	Alex La Awng, Liaison	Evaluation Meeting	01DEC03 Shalom Centre,Myitkyina Kachin State
Asian Harm Reduction Network	Theinny Oo, Project Secretary	Seminar on Buddhist Participation in HIV/AIDS Responses in Myanmar	17DEC03 Kandawgyi Palace Hotel, Yangon
Kachin Baptist Convention	Saw Min Naing, Assistant Programme Coordinator Ja Nu, Training Coordinator Kai Ja, Training Coordinator	External Evaluation	1 917JAN04 Myitkyina, Kachin State
UNDP	Alex La Awng Liaison	Community Development fo Remote Township Meeting	02MAR04 Myitkyina Kachin State
World Concern	Doi San Accountant	Saving & Loan Training	0 911MAR04 Pyin Oo Lwin, MandalayDivision
UNICEF	Seng Raw Programme Director	Workshop on Barmament, Demobilisation, Reintegratio and Rehabilitation	2 024MAR04 Bangkok Thailand
Yinthway Foundation	Saw Min Naing Assistant Programme Coordinator Theinny Oo Project Secretary	Annual Semina	2327MAR04 St. Matthew Kachin Church, Pyin Oo Lwin Mandalay Division
Terre des Hommes	Morine Po Project Secretary	Project Cycle Management	29MAR02APR04 Myanmar Council of Churches, Yangon



STATEMENT OF METTA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION for the year ender

Income April 2003 to March 2004

	USD	MMK
Balance as at 01 April 2003	74,671.72	1,689,438.4
Actionaid	54,635.00	
British Embassy, Myanmar	11,258.00	
Burma Sustainable Energy Project (BSEP)	1,020.00	
Christian Outreach Relief and Development (CORD)	19,848.00	
French Catholic Committee Against Hunger and for Development (CCFD)	28,691.94	
German Agro Action (GAA)	29,963.05	
German Doctors for Developing Countries	31,440.80	
Irish Catholic Agency for World Development (Trócaire)	49,859.27	
Mr. John & Nina Cassils	3,000.00	
Netherlands Organisation for International Development Cooperation (Novib)	59,826.54	
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	43,602.00	
Susanne Neheider and Niki Mavridis	360.00	
Swiss Foundation for Development Cooperation (Swissaid)	159,649.16	20,862,600.0
Terre des Hommes, Germany (TdH)	11,750.00	
The German Catholic Bishop's Organisation for Development (Misereor)	74,593.65	
Women's World Day of Prayer, German (WDP)	34,284.00	
Individual Donation	49.00	1,755,033.0
Total Income	688,502.13	24,307,071.4

The Balance Sheet and Statement of Result for the financial year 2003-2004 will be presented to the Board Meeting on 19 June 2004.

The Ministry of Internal	Account:	Metta Development Foundation
Revenue has granted tax	Account No:	95263
exemptions on all funds	Bank:	Myanma Foreign Trade Bank
received.	Bank Address:	80/86 Mahabandoola Garden Str
Ba Hka -1/290 (512/99)		Yangon, Myanmar



FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES 31 March 2004

Expenditure April 2003 to March 2004

Experientare April 2003 to March 2004	USD	MMK
Direct Programme Cost	118,243.65	311,226,866.8
Other Income	(2,726.86)	(1,562,564.6
Office & Service Cost	16,314.00	44,599,794.7
Capital Expenditure	250.00	4,848,445.0
MMK Generation	475,592.69	(389,268,357.0
Purchase of USD/FEC	(50,784.00)	41,795,100.0
Total Expenditure	556,889.48	11,639,285.0
Balance as at 31 March 2004	131,612.65	12,667,786.4

Surplus Balance USD 131,612.65 is because:

- Swissaid fund for FFS II was received in February 2004.
- · Actionaid for FFS I was received in February 2004.
- Novib Fund for FFS II was received in January 2004.
- CORD Fund for Kavah and Kachin Projects was received in March 2004.

KHIN SU HTAY & ASSOCIATES

 $No.615\ R, Pyay\ Road, Kamayut\ Township$

Yangon. Mvanmar

Email: mcksh@mptmail.net.mm



Centre for Action Research & Demonstration (CARD)

CARD is a permanent demonstration farm and training centre established in 2002, with assistance from Misereor. It is situated at Alam Village, 22 km (14 miles) from Myitkyina, capital of Kachin State. This centre enables community members, as well as staff and volunteers of NGOs working with farming communities, to enhance knowledge and skills in sustainable agriculture, innovative practices in both upland and lowland farming, and animal husbandry.



Banana - a high value cash crop grown during the 2002 TOT

Training on development paradigm, participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation, and agriculture produce related skills training such as fruit preservation, snack making, is on offer for women and interested individuals. CARD serves not only as a venue for training and demonstration activities, but is also a centre for conducting research on appropriate methods and approaches. Electricity for CARD is produced from solar power and hydropower, while fuel from biogas is used for a stove in the Centre's kitchen.

CARD is striving to be self supporting with income from its produce and the training complementary budget from Novib. As of June 2004, a 4-month training of trainers course on sustainable agriculture and innovative practices in upland development is in session. The training is supported by the British Embassy, CORD, GRET, KMSS, Misereor, Trocaire and Swissaid, and the 38 trainees will return to their communities with a deeper understanding of the essential elements involved in improving their livelihood.



By practical use of appropriate technology and traditional methods CARD plays a role in enhancing the lives of rural people.



Locally produced rotary weeder



Laying bamboo segments at the kiln base



Compost preparation using IMOs



Firing the kiln for making charcoal acid from bamboo for pest control

AVAILABLE

- The practice of the System of Rice Intensification in Northern Myanmar Paper presented at the Proceedings of an International Conference, Sanya, China, 01-04 April 2002
- Mungbaw Initiative: Potential of Summer Rice, December 2002
- How to make Dochakin Compost: use of micro-organisms and making compost
- FFS Evaluation Report, December 2003
- Evaluation of PAR Projects in Kayah and Kayin States, March 2004
- FFS (2001-2003) Terminal Report, March 2004
- Annual Report 2003, 2004

ABBREVIATIONS

CARD	Centre for Action Research and
	Demonstration
DMT	Development Management Training
ECCD	Early Childhood Care and Development
FFS	Farmer Field School
FLE	Farmer-led Extension
IMO	Indigenous Micro Organism
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
PAR	Participatory Action Research
PME	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
SALT	Sloping Agriculture Land Technology
SRI*	System of Rice Intensification
TOT	Training of Trainers
VHW	Village Health Worker
WDP	Women's Development Programme



^{*} The work on SRI was first begun by a French priest, Fr.Henri de Laulanié, in the early 1980s in Madagascar . Tefy Saina, an NGO in Madagascar, has continued to carry on the efforts of spreading SRI after Fr. De Laulanié died in 1995. International focus on SRI began when the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development (CIIFAD) became involved in disseminating information on SRI, encouraging its implementation beyond Madagascar to diverse geographical areas across the globe. Metta, from 2000 on, has been incorporating SRI practices in its FFS programme.