



**AgResults Vietnam
Emissions Reduction Pilot**

General Introduction



What is the Project?

The AgResults Vietnam Emissions Reduction Pilot project aims to develop, test and scale up innovative technologies, tools, and approaches to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the land cultivation and production stages for rice, while reducing poverty, protecting the environment and preparing for climate change.

The project utilizes a pull mechanism, an innovative finance mechanism that provides monetary incentives to overcome market barriers, in order to spur a diverse pool of actors to achieve significant GHG emissions reductions. The project will be implemented in Thai Binh province in the Red River Delta, Vietnam for the period of 2016 – 2021.

Why have the Project?

As an agricultural-based economy, rice production and export play a key role in creating jobs and livelihoods for more than 70% of the population of Vietnam. According to the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change, the agriculture sector accounts for 33% of total non-carbon dioxide GHG emissions, of which rice cultivation accounts for approximately 50%. To address this challenge, the AgResults has designed the project to identify novel approaches for reducing GHG emissions and increasing yields in rice cultivation and to scale the most effective approaches to thousands of smallholder farmers. Given that the vast majority of emissions occur at the land preparation and cultivation stages of rice farming, the project is focused exclusively on solutions that effectively reduce emissions at these stages. The project works to target smallholder farmers, input providers, aggregators, universities and research institutions, government officials, cooperatives, non-governmental organizations, and development agencies who have the potential to have significant impact on GHG reductions at these stages.

Who are the Key Stakeholders?

Pilot Manager

In July 2016, **SNV Netherlands Development Organisation** was selected as the Pilot Manager for the period of 2016-2021. SNV manages the project's activities and efforts in accordance with a Secretariat-approved Work Plan and a Pilot Manager agreement and collaborates closely with the Secretariat as required or appropriate. Headed by the Team Leader, the Pilot Manager team is responsible for the management and implementation of the Pilot in a neutral, facilitative and coordinating role.

SNV has entered into a formal partnership with the **Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) of Thai Binh province** and the **Department of Crop Production of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)** for co-implementing, overseeing and facilitating the uptake of optimized low carbon rice farming technology at scale and the accompanying policy changes.

Advisory Council

This body comprises of representatives from key stakeholders, including a diverse array of donors, research institutions, and government departments. The Advisory Council is not a decision-making body but rather provides advice on implementing the project to the Steering Committee, Secretariat and Pilot Manager.

Solvers

A wide range of established entities from the private, public and non-profit sectors who will participate in the project, with the aim to achieve the project objectives and receive a cash prize if their results are verified.

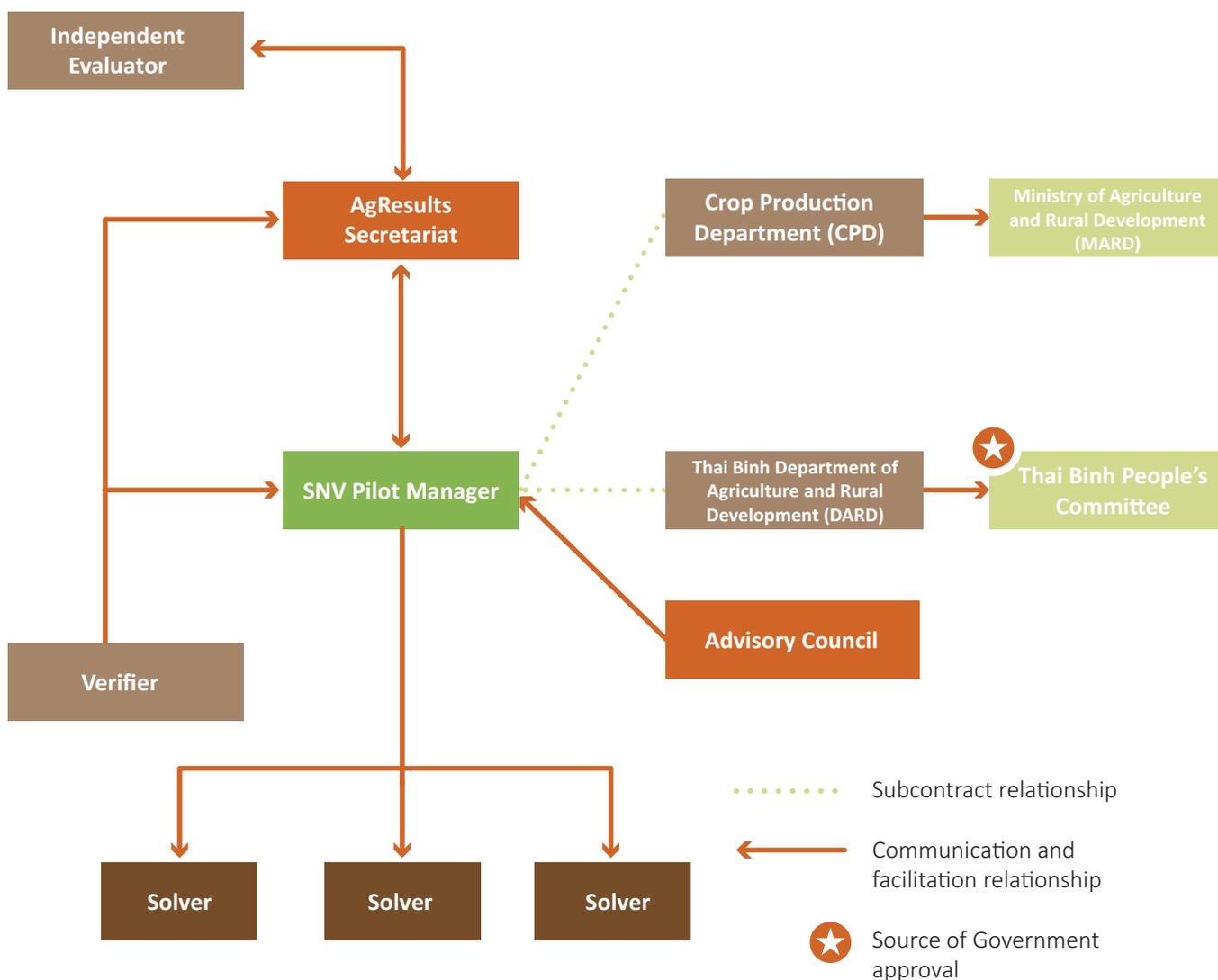
Verifiers

Applied Geo-Solutions and their sub-contractors including the **Institute of Agriculture Environment** are engaged to validate the accuracy of and determine any issues, suspicious activity or fraud in what Solver organizations report, verifying that farmers are using the Solver's technology, the number of farmers they have worked with, the number of repeated use of the technology, and the farm-level input data for the calculation of prize payments. At this time, verification is anticipated to be a combination of GHG measurement, satellite image plot yield estimation, and field verification of farmer inputs.

Independent Evaluators

Abt Associates will measure the impacts from the project and compare them to traditional, "push mechanism" development approaches in order to generate evidence on the efficacy of the "pull mechanism."

What are the Relationships Among the Key Stakeholders?



What are the Project's Anticipated Results?



Reach up to
75,000
farming households in the Red
River Delta



Reduce up to
375,000
tons of carbon dioxide
equivalents (tCO₂e)



Provide cost savings of around
15%
to farming households as a result
of efficient input use



Define and recommend the field
tested and international-level
verified low carbon rice farming
technologies for wide-uptake
in Vietnam

How is the Project Implemented?

The Project will be organized into two phases:

Phase 1 consists of two test growing seasons and will tentatively start during the summer growing season of 2017 and the spring growing season of 2018. Selected participants (capped at 15) will test their technologies during the two harvest periods. Results in terms of yield and GHG emissions will be verified by Applied Geo-Solutions and will be co-monitored by SNV and the Thai Binh Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. The participants that develop and demonstrate effective technologies and/or solutions that reduce GHG emissions will receive interim and milestone prizes and will be selected to participate in Phase 2.

Phase 2 consists of four consecutive growing seasons and will tentatively start in the Spring growing of 2019 and finish in the summer growing season of 2020. At the end of each of the four growing seasons of Phase 2, interim prizes will be distributed and a grand-prize will be distributed proportionally to order-ranked winning Solvers in accordance with the contest rules and regulations at the end of the sixth season. The selected optimum rice cultivation technology(ies) must demonstrate its efficacies in terms of highest number of small holder farmers reached, repeated use of the introduced technology(ies) by smallholder farmers, total GHG emissions reduction and yield increase. Results in terms of these four main indicators will be verified by the Applied Geo-Solutions.



What is the Prize Range?

TEST	SCALE
<p>Phase I (1.5 Years): Implementers Test Solutions on Controlled Pilots</p> <p>Interim Prize: Implementers that surpass their implementer-specific baselines for GHG emissions reduction (60% weight), and yields increase (40% weight)</p> <p>SHARE AN INTERIM PRIZE BETWEEN</p> <p>US \$35,000 - 75,000</p> <p>PROPORTIONAL TO THEIR RESULTS</p> <hr/> <p>Milestone Prize: Implementers with the highest combined GHG emissions reductions (60% weight), and yield increases (40% weight) receive a prize:</p> <p><u>1st Place:</u> <u>2nd Place:</u> <u>3rd Place:</u> US \$50,000 US \$30,000 US \$20,000</p>	<p>Phase II (2.5 Years): Successful Solutions are Scaled Up</p> <p>Interim Prize per Crop Cycle (3): Implementers that surpass their implementer-specific baselines for GHG emissions reduction (20% weight), yield increase (20% weight), number of smallholder farmers reached (40% weight), and repeat use of tool/product (20% weight)</p> <p>SHARE A PRIZE OF</p> <p>US \$500,000</p> <p>PROPORTIONAL TO THEIR RESULTS</p> <hr/> <p>Grand Prize: The three implementers with the highest number of smallholder farmers reached (40% weight), repeated use of solutions (20% weight), total GHG emissions reduction (20% weight), and average yield percentage increased (20% weight) receive a prize:</p> <p><u>1st Place:</u> <u>2nd Place:</u> <u>3rd Place:</u> US \$750,000 US \$400,000 US \$200,000</p>
<p>TOTAL PRIZES AVAILABLE: US \$2,985,000 - 3,355,000</p>	

AgResults is a US \$123 million multi-donor initiative between the governments of Australia, Canada, the U.K., the U.S. and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to incentivize and reward high-impact agricultural innovations that promote global food security, health, and nutrition and benefit smallholder farmers. AgResults originated from the June 2010, G20 Summit in Toronto, where leaders committed to exploring innovative, results-focused methods to harnessing private sector innovations in food security and improving productivity in developing countries. The initiative is currently running six pilots in Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria, Vietnam, and one globally.

Project Location



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