

The Organizing Committee takes pleasure in inviting scientists, students, progressive farmers, policy makers and other stakeholders of the vegetable sub-sector to participate in **the Regional Symposium: "High Value Vegetables in Southeast Asia-Production, Supply and Demand"** scheduled on *January 24-26, 2012 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.*

#### Location

Pang Suan Keaw, Chiang-Mai, Thailand

#### Organizing Committee

Dr. Suwit Chaikittiyos

Director, Horticulture Research Institute, Department of Agriculture (Thailand)

Dr. Robert J. Holmer

Regional Director, AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center, East and Southeast Asia

Dr. Prem Nath

Chairperson, Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET)

Dr. Grisana Linwatana

Senior Research Scientist, Horticulture Research Institute, Department of Agriculture (Thailand)

#### Scientific Committee

Representatives of DOA, AVRDC, VEGINET and AARNET

#### Registration fees:

- 50 US \$ for residents of ASEAN member states
- 100 US\$ for residents from non-ASEAN member states

**The registration fees have been kept to a strict minimum in order to allow maximum participation. The registration fees as specified below include:**

- conference bag with CD of abstracts
- access to all plenary and poster sessions and parallel working groups
- welcome drink
- coffee/tea breaks and lunches

#### Contact

##### Horticulture Research Institute

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##### AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

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Email: [info-eastasia@worldveg.org](mailto:info-eastasia@worldveg.org)

Conference website: [www.seaveg2012.com](http://www.seaveg2012.com)

First announcement:

**25 January 2011**

Second announcement :

**1 April 2011**

Third announcement :

**1 June 2011**

**Deadline for  
submission of  
abstracts:**

**31 August 2011**



**AVRDC**

The World Vegetable Center



*Regional Symposium*

# High Value Vegetables in Southeast Asia: Production, Supply and Demand

**24-26 January 2012**

**Pang Suan Keaw  
Chiang Mai, Thailand**

First Announcement  
**25 January 2011**

Hosted by:

*Thailand Department of Agriculture (DOA)*

*ASEAN-AVRDC Regional Network (AARNET)*

*Vegetable Science International Network  
(VEGINET)*

*Horticultural Science Society of Thailand*



## BACKGROUND

Agriculture, and in particular horticulture, is a major contributor to the continued economic growth of most ASEAN member states. However, as recognized by the international agricultural research community, horticultural production in Southeast Asia is beset with production, postharvest, and marketing challenges that need to be addressed to sustain and enhance socioeconomic development. Recent scientific developments have the potential to address the problems facing the vegetable industry. Identifying these advancements and their relevance to the current needs of millions of smallholder vegetable farmers, larger vegetable production companies, market agents and consumers will help the region's vegetable industry face these challenges.

## AIM and SCOPE

To capitalize on the increasing demand for vegetables due to perceived nutrition and health benefits and to ensure supplies are adequate, accessible, and affordable for the poor and marginalized groups, the vegetable industry needs environmentally and economically sustainable production methods, a decrease in postharvest losses, and improved supply chain efficiencies. Major challenges are (1) poor crop performance due to damage by pests and poor crop management, (2) limited or no access to quality planting materials adapted to local conditions and market demands, and (3) limited access to knowledge and technologies for good agricultural practices.

Climate change, which contributes to frequent flooding, prolonged droughts, and temperature extremes, high population growth associated with urbanization and subsequent pressure on arable land, and poor postharvest and marketing strategies further limit the profitability of vegetable production.

These factors need to be addressed in a holistic manner to bring about significant impact. This symposium aims to bring together a wide range of expertise related to the vegetable sector. Through the assessment of the regional vegetable production value chain, it is hoped that representatives from agricultural and environmental agencies, universities, policymakers as well as farmers, consumers, and producer groups will develop sound recommendations to improve and strengthen the region's vegetable sector in the face of climate change.

The member states of ASEAN are expected to benefit from the regional approach. Economically, it will strengthen trade between member states and also put ASEAN in a much stronger position in international trade due to improved quality and quantity of vegetable produce and better adherence to internationally accepted phytosanitary standards and quality assurance schemes, such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Improved resilience to the negative impacts of climate change will enable the ASEAN vegetable industry to lessen the impact of natural calamities and disasters. Lastly, sustainable use and recycling of production inputs will help minimize the vegetable industry's impact on the diminishing natural resources of the region.

## SESSIONS

The symposium is divided into three sessions to encourage improvement of the sustainability of vegetable production, market access, promotion of vegetable consumption for health and vitality, industry profitability and competitiveness, structural change, and the vegetable industry's reputation in Southeast Asia.

### *Session 1: From Seed to Harvest*

Topics include germplasm, breeding, seed and plant health, integrated crop management with focus on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), low-input organic vegetable production and ASEAN indigenous vegetables.

### *Session 2: From Harvest to Table*

Topics include vegetable postharvest technologies, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), cold chain management, vegetable economics and marketing, food safety, health and nutrition aspects of vegetables and supply chain model simulation.

### *Session 3: Cross-sectoral Issues*

Topics include contributions of vegetable research and development to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) as well as cross-sectoral issues such as climate change, gender equity, ecological sanitation, urban and regional planning, urban and peri-urban horticulture, disaster risk management and micro-financing.

