

Strengthening the Australia - Vietnam partnership through organic agriculture

Alumni grantees:

- Nguyen Van Kien: PhD - Australian National University; Lecturer - An Giang University
- Nguyen Van Thai: Master - RMIT University; Lecturer - An Giang University
- Le Ngoc Hiep: Master - Flinders University; Lecturer - An Giang University

Implementation period

2018 - 2019



Issue

Despite growing demand from Vietnamese consumers for safe food, productivity levels and promotional capacities of farmer households in organics are still limited.

Action

To address these challenges, this alumni group organised a series of workshops and short training courses in Australia and Vietnam to promote linkages between the two countries through technology transfer, capacity building in research and development, organic agriculture practices and trade promotion.

Achievements

1. More than 1,000 people (326 direct and 700 indirect beneficiaries) in An Giang and the Mekong Delta, including Khmer ethnic minorities, were trained in organic production techniques, resulting in improvements to livelihoods and nutrition.
2. The first forum on organic agriculture in the Mekong Delta was successfully held in An Giang, bringing 200 representatives from government agencies, international organisations, NGOs, businesses and farmers together to share their experiences in organic agriculture research, production and product distribution.
3. Linkages were established between certifying organisations, businesses, farmers and the Australian Organic Agriculture Association to support the development of organic agriculture in Vietnam.
4. An organic vegetable farming model for Khmer communities was successfully piloted in Tri Ton district, and then replicated in Tinh Bien district, An Giang province.



Since joining the organic farming initiative by Mekong Organics, I've earned more money to afford daily essentials that used to be just a dream.



Ms Neang Kia, 68 years old, O Lam commune, Tri Ton district, An Giang province