

**The Climakers - Workshop for
sharing best practices conducted
by farmers group in Asian region
5th October 2021-IDACA-Japan.
Organized by WFO & IDACA.**

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Our Experience....

- ▶ We have many experience of hardships faced by our farmers during fast decades due to climate change effects.
- ▶ Out of these, we would like to brief you on one such incident on this.

As a tropical country...

- ▶ Sri Lanka being a Tropical Country, there are different types of climatic conditions in the region.
- ▶ Those are Cool-warm climate, Cool climate, Warm climate, Dry climate, Very Dry climate etc...

We have to change our life...

- ▶ Whatever the climatic conditions prevail, we cannot change it. Only thing that we can do is, change our life according to that.
- ▶ We have seen destruction of crops, loss of lives, land slips, destruction of homes, damage to building etc... due to heavy rain.
- ▶ Also we have experienced that, when there a heavy rain in one part of the country, there is a unbearable drought in another part of the country at the same time.

In 2012 Drought...

- ▶ Today I am going to brief you a very pathetic incident that our farmer members faced in 2012 due to drought and what we can do to tackle this in the future.

I personally faced this...

- ▶ The reason why I decided to explain this to you is, as a farmer I also faced this problem personally in 2012.
- ▶ Coconut is one of our main income earner and once the tree grew up, it gives the harvest for about 100 years.
- ▶ While growing coconut, we can cultivate fruits and vegetable as under plant crops. Therefore there is much motivation among farmers for coconut cultivation.

Coconut Estate...



In 2012 no rain...

- ▶ As a farmer I also do cultivate Coconut, fruits and vegetable on full time basis in my farm land.
- ▶ In 2012, the expected rain fall did not arrive and gradually it reduced. By August, September and October there was no rain and it was unbearable drought.
- ▶ Normally, in September and October we used to receive little rain and we all farmers expected that.

Crops were destroyed...

- ▶ But the drought became more and more terrible and all our expectations were completely destroyed.
- ▶ This was mainly faced by the farmers who were near around the dry zoon of Puthlam District in North Western province.
- ▶ Most of the crops of farmers was destroyed due to the drought. Since there was no facility to water the land, farmers faced immense difficulties.

About 200,000 Coconut trees were destroyed...

- ▶ Coconut trees of coconut lands, started to die one by one. People who were rich enough to bring water from other areas to lands by bowsers, managed to protect coconut trees.
- ▶ About 150 farmers faced this unfortunate situation and about 200,000 trees were destroyed between the ages of 5 years to 75 years old.
- ▶ In my land also I had cultivated about 1000 trees and all of them affected and about 300 trees were completely destroyed.

Many Coconut trees were destroyed...



Solution...

- ▶ Then we discussed among our members as how to overcome this problem in the future. Then after evaluation of proposals we decided to lay coconut husks nearby coconut trees.
- ▶ We dug in the size of 6X4X4 (feet) pits, close to the coconut trees and those pits were filled with Coconut husks.
- ▶ During the rainy season, these Coconut husks will absorb water and during the dry season it keeps the land wet. In addition, some who were able to construct tube wells can supply water to these 'husk pits' during the dry season also.

Coconut Husks ready to fill



Our effort was success...

- ▶ We realized that our effort was success after 2-3 years. So now we are introducing this method to all farmers in the area.
- ▶ Earlier most of the farmers used to sell coconut with husks. Now they remove husks before they sell coconut nuts and use husks protect the land as we instructed, also these coconut husks help farmers as good additional fertilizer.

We Recommend...

- ▶ So we are happy to announce that we have successfully faced ‘climate change effect’ and would recommend those who face this problem to adopt this any other places.

THANK YOU VERY
MUCH