

**Funding Source:**

Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) - 41%
Pupuk Alam - 59%

Program:

Enterprise Challenge Fund for the Pacific and South East Asia

Project Name:

Manufacture and Distribution of Yeast Protein for Field Control of Pest Fruit Flies to Enhance Fruit and Vegetable Production

Project Location:

Cambodia

Project Start Date:

1 October 2009

Project End Date:

30 September 2012

Total Grant Funds Approved:

A\$873,100

Pupuk Alam Sdn Bhd

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Pupuk Alam Sdn Bhd (PA) in Kuala Lumpur is a distributor of fertilisers and has worked with the International Centre for Management of Pest Fruit Flies (ICMPFF) at Griffith University, Queensland to develop an environmentally friendly fruit fly bait using yeast waste from breweries. The two parties trialed the bait in the Mekong area of Vietnam and this resulted in more than 95% of fruit crops being saved from fruit fly infestation. Pupuk Alam has bait producing plants in Malaysia and Indonesia with output committed to the growing markets in each country.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

PA will utilise an ECF grant to introduce a fruit fly bait product to farmers in Cambodia and to establish a bait production facility in Phnom Penh. The grant will be used to part finance extensive farmer training programs in all Cambodian provinces on the new, more environmentally friendly technology. Griffith University will be involved in the initial farmer training programs but this will be transferred to local trainers as quickly as possible.

Bait stocks for training programs, which will allow farmers to field test the product, will be supplied from PA's existing production facilities. The local production plant is expected to be operational by late 2010. Any excess capacity in the new facilities will be exported to interested customers in China, Vietnam and/or Thailand.

BENEFITS TO THE POOR

This project addresses an important barrier to expansion of the fruit and some vegetable industries in Cambodia in an environmentally friendly manner. Broad spraying of insecticides is more expensive than the bait equivalent and can cause both environmental and health problems. The benefits of this project are expected to include:

- Substantially improved incomes for approximately 1200 rural families throughout the country
- A 55-65 per cent reduction in loss of crop (bringing crop loss to as low as 5 per cent).
- Farmer and education training will also provide guidance on crop hygiene and management
- Reduced health risks for farmers
- Possible stimulus of export orientated mango, other fruit and vegetable export projects

PA will also work closely with donor supported agricultural projects and relevant government agencies to maximise broader impacts and has already established relationships with non-government organisations delivering livelihood programs focused on improving the living standards of women and children.

THE ROLE OF ECF FUNDING SUPPORT

PA did not have the financial resources to cover the costs of this project and commercial funding was not available given the high level of risk associated with this new agricultural technology.

For more information please visit our website www.enterprisechallengefund.org



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