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IHE-DUPC2 Webinar Building resilient rivers and deltas – taking stock from research and practices from the DUPC2 program

Flood-based farming systems for enhancing livelihood resilience in the floodplain of upper Mekong delta

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An Giang University – Climate Change Institute
January 27th 2022

Floating rice elongates during floods and at ripen time



Floating rice elongates during the flood peak, October 2013 at Mr's Hao rice fields, Vinh Phuoc Commune, Tri Ton District, An Giang province

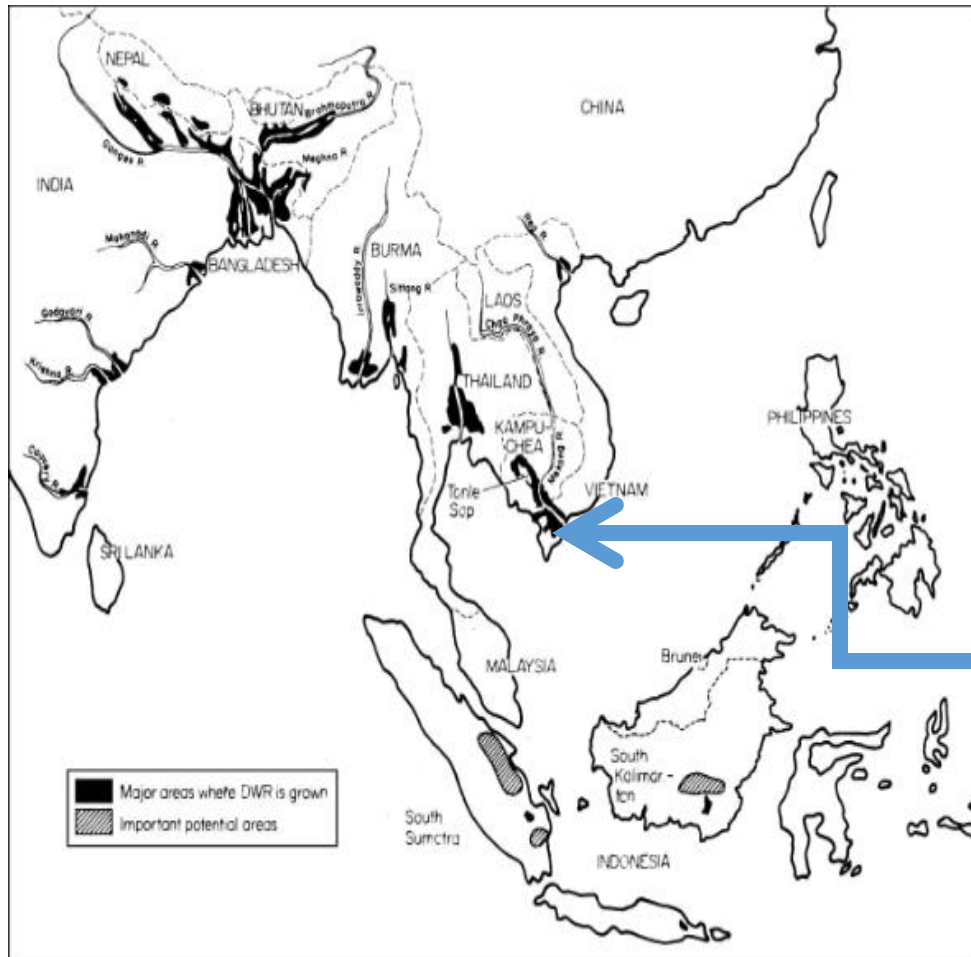
@ Van Kien Nguyen, 2013



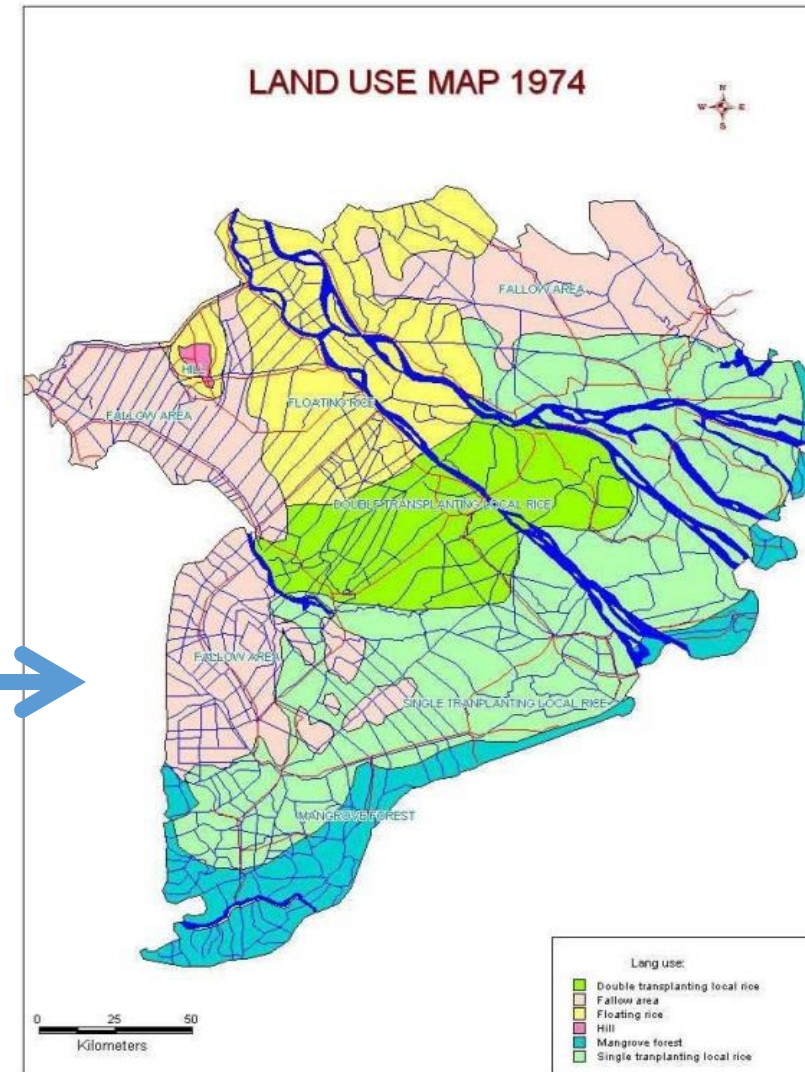
Floating rice is ripen, ready to harvest

@ Huynh Ngoc Duc, 2012

Floating rice in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam before 1975

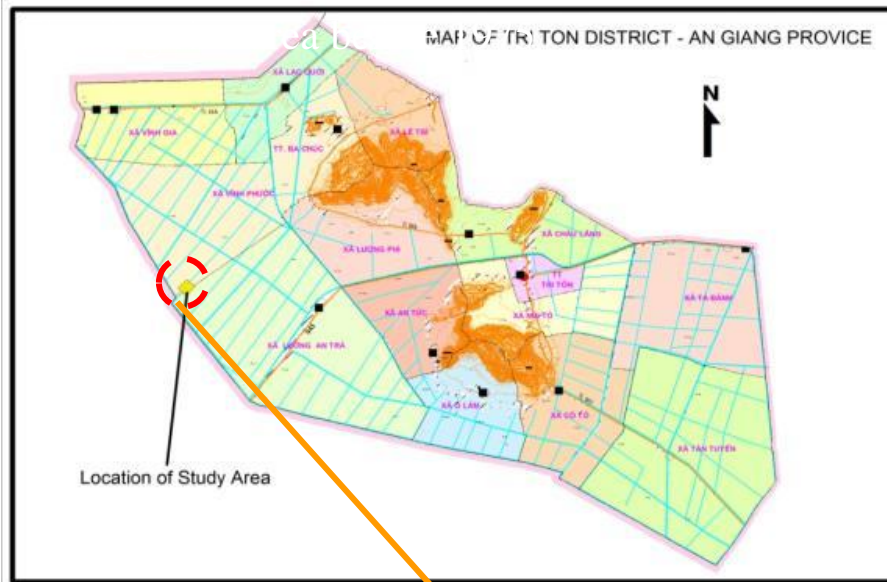


Adapted from: Catling (1992)



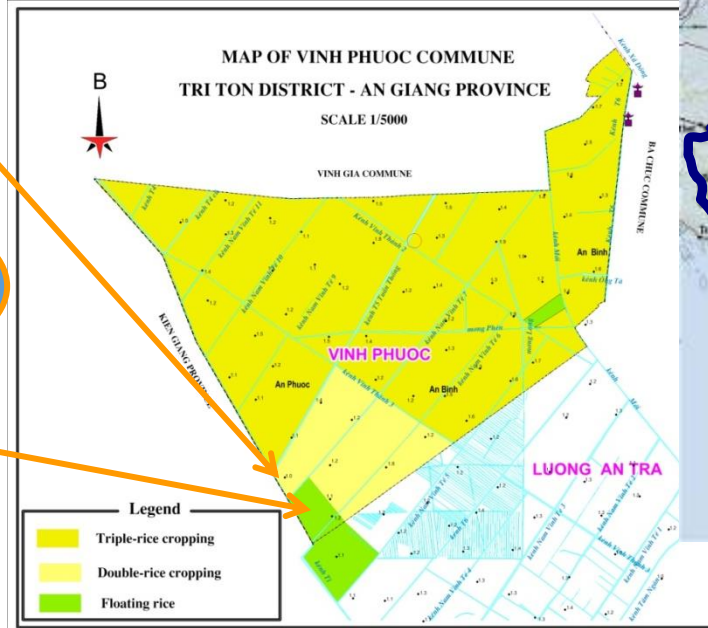
Adapted from: [Võ Tông Xuân and Matsui \(1998\)](#)

The floating rice area in the Mekong Delta in 2013

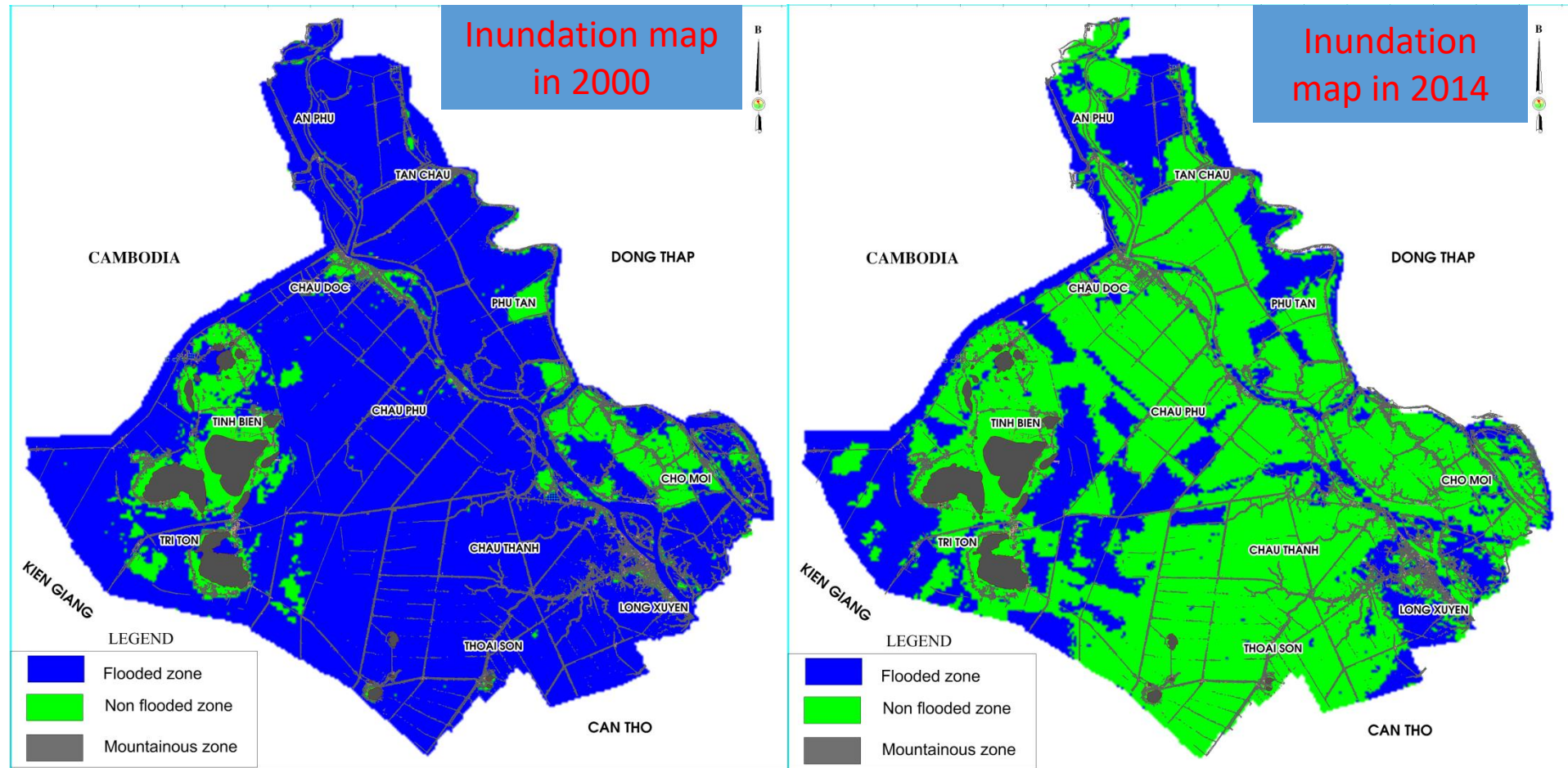


Source: Phạm Duy Tiến (2013)

50 ha remaining:
Project site



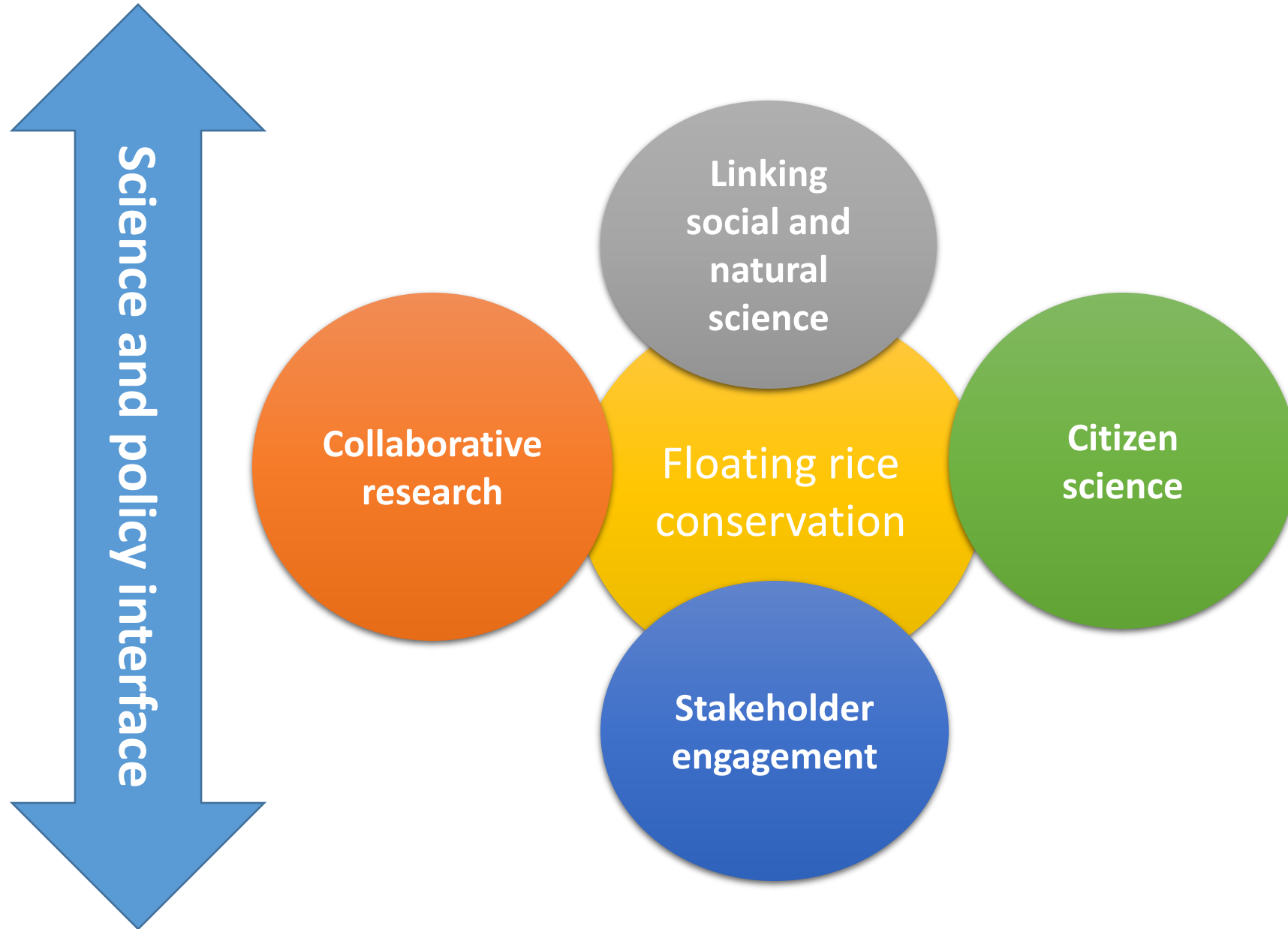
More than 2/3 of An Giang province's total agricultural land area is covered by dikes – high yield rice area displaced the floating rice



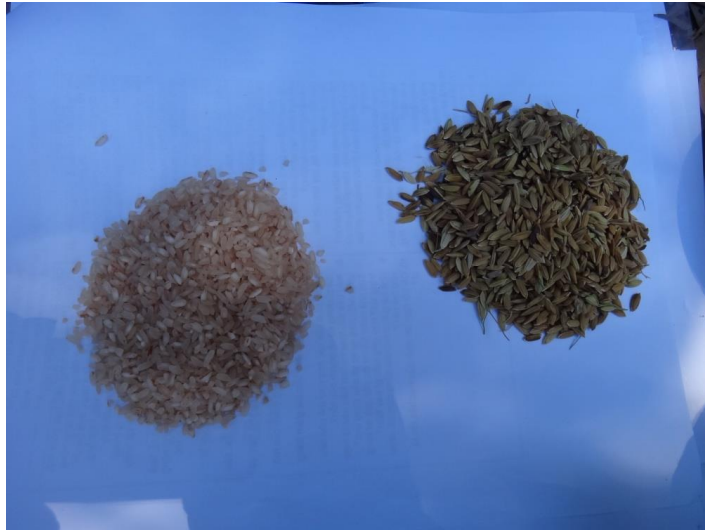
Source: Pham Duy Tien (2015)

Source: Pham Duy Tien (2015)

How to identify the problems and develop real solution?



Undertook field experiments, social-cultural, value chain research, nutritional studies and trainings to farmers



Developed market for the floating rice: Price of floating rice (paddies) increased by 3 times after the project operated in one year (in 2014)



Farmers sold floating rice “paddies” at VND 14,000/kg. Previously, farmers sold VND5,000/kg. in 2017, Cooking Studio Company bought paddies, milled, packed and sold floating rice in HCM city at VND 79,000/kg supported by RCRD/AGU research projects. Evidence is collected by RCRD team, Dr. Van Kien Nguyen.



However, values are underestimate!



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Outcomes of the project

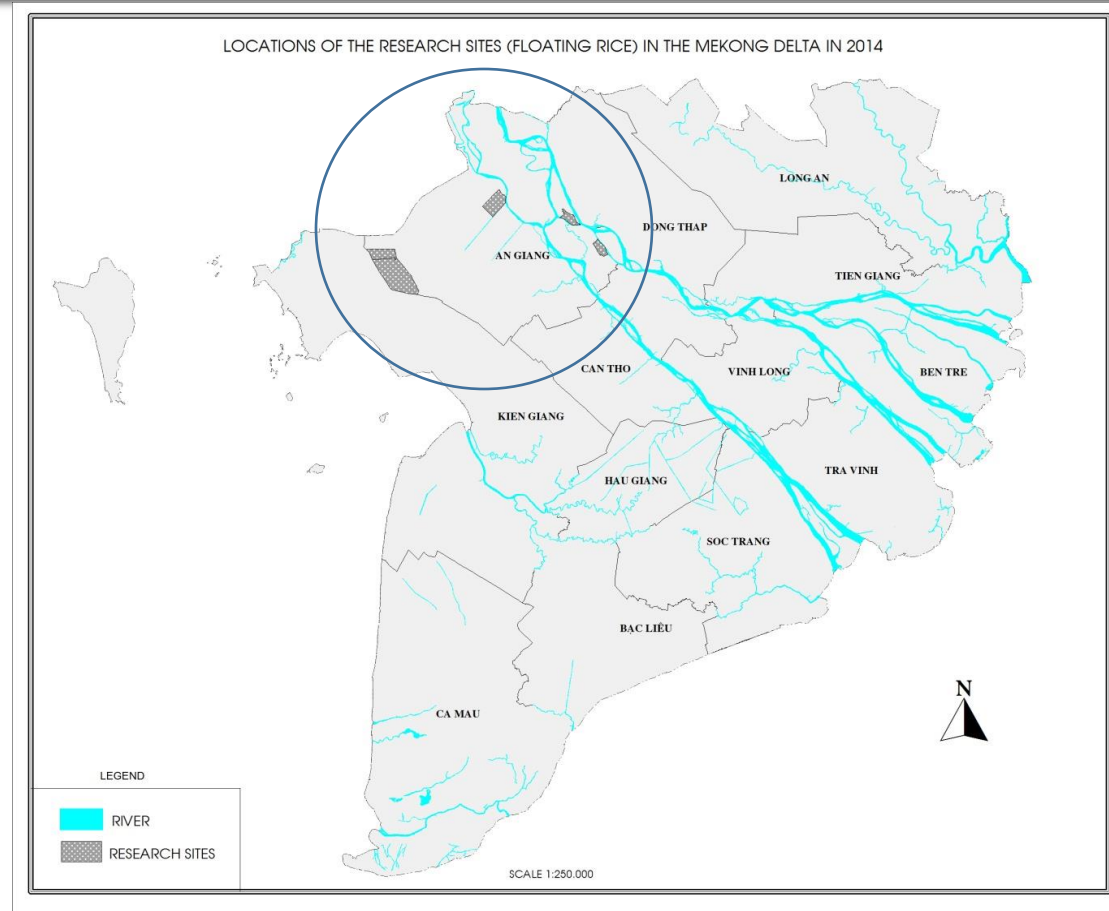


Value added products was developed from the IHE-DUPC2



Project achievement after 3 years (2013-2016), then 2017-22, the planted area increased to 700 ha

Four research sites were promoted for 3 years. Over 200 ha were recovered after 3 years



Map of the Mekong Delta's floating rice research sites:

Project sites: Vinh Phuoc-Tri Ton/AG; My An-Cho Moi/AG; Tan Long-Thanh Binh/Dong Thap; and Hong Ngu/Dong Thap

Source: Nguyen, V. K., et al. (2015). "Comparing the costs and benefits of floating rice-based and intensive rice-based farming systems in the Mekong Delta." Asian Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development 5(9): 202-217.

Future is unpredictable (too much water or too little water?) – will all values of the floating rice are taken into account? – More research should be done?

Thanks



Floating rice research team at RCRD was examining rice depth during flood year 2013 in Vinh Phuoc commune, Tri Ton district, An Giang province