

## Evidences

### Study #2724

**Projects:**

- P1584
- P1573
- P1572
- P1580
- P1581

**Part I: Public communications**

**Type:** OICR: Outcome Impact Case Report

**Status:** On Going

**Year:** 2018

**Tagged as:** New Outcome/Impact Case

**Title:** Expansion of the 'seeds without borders' agreement to Bhutan

**Short outcome/impact statement:**

Bhutan can now import improved variety seeds without much hassle from six countries in the region. Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka are the other members of the network agreement.

**Outcome story for communications use:**

Expansion of the seeds without borders agreement to Bhutan (News Kuensel). Bhutan can now import improved variety seeds without much hassle from six countries in the region. The country joined the Seeds Without Borders protocol with the agriculture secretary Rinzin Dorji formally signing the agreement on June 13 in Thimphu. Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka are the other members of the network agreement. The agreement initiated by International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) was first signed between Bangladesh, and India in 2013. The agreement started with rice seeds. The seed agreement covers a number of rice-based crops such as maize, wheat, vegetables, pulses and other crops with the possibility to include many more in future.

**Links to any communications materials relating to this outcome:**

- <http://www.kuenselonline.com/bhutan-joins-seeds-without-borders/>

**Part II: CGIAR system level reporting**

**Link to Common Results Reporting Indicator of Policies :** Yes

**Policies contribution:**

● 183 - Expansion of the 'seeds without borders' agreement to Bhutan. Bhutan can now import improved variety seeds without much hassle from six countries in the region. Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka are the other members of the network agreement

**Level of maturity of change reported:** Level 1

**Links to the Strategic Results Framework:**

Sub-IDs:

- Adoption of CGIAR materials with enhanced genetic gains
- Appropriate regulatory environment for food safety
- Conducive agricultural policy environment

Is this OICR linked to some SRF 2022/2030 target?: Too early to say

Comment: <Not Defined>

**Geographic scope:**

- Multi-national

Country(ies):

- India
- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- Bhutan
- Myanmar (Burma)
- Sri Lanka

Comments: <Not Defined>

**Key Contributors:**

Contributing CRPs/Platforms:

- Rice - Rice

Contributing Flagships:

- F1: Accelerating impact and equity

Contributing Regional programs: <Not Defined>

Contributing external partners:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (Bhutan)
- Royal Government of Bhutan

**CGIAR innovation(s) or findings that have resulted in this outcome or impact:**

The agreement allows for any given rice variety that has been tested, approved, and released in one country to be released in other countries without undergoing further testing and evaluation, as long as they will be grown under similar agroclimatic conditions.

**Innovations:** <Not Defined>

**Elaboration of Outcome/Impact Statement:**

The agreement establishes common parameters for varietal release. It allows a rice variety that has been tested, approved, and released in one country to be released in other countries without undergoing further testing and evaluation, as long as they will be grown under similar agroclimatic conditions. Modern, climate-resilient rice varieties that withstand drought or salinity help vulnerable farmers establish a secure food supply for their families as well as added income that they can invest in their own future.

Standard regulatory systems for new rice varieties require multi-season testing to ensure performance, pest and disease resistance and consumption quality. While these processes are important for quality assurance, it is typically conducted independently by each country. As such, a variety released in one country is still required to go through a similar vetting process in a neighboring country, increasing the time to market these new rice varieties. The expansion of the regional seed-sharing agreement to include Bhutan builds on the success of the existing South Asia Regional Seed Policy Agreement, which was signed in 2014 by the governments of Bangladesh, Nepal, and India. In its first 3 years, this agreement has enabled eight rice varieties to be released and shared across three countries.

**References cited:**

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/bhutan-joins-seeds-without-borders/>

<http://news.irri.org/2016/07/bhutan-and-irri-strengthen-partnership.html>

**Quantification:** <Not Defined>

**Gender, Youth, Capacity Development and Climate Change:**

**Gender relevance:** 0 - Not Targeted

**Youth relevance:** 0 - Not Targeted

**CapDev relevance:** 0 - Not Targeted

**Climate Change relevance:** 0 - Not Targeted

**Other cross-cutting dimensions:** NA

**Other cross-cutting dimensions description:** <Not Defined>

**Outcome Impact Case Report link:** [Study #2724](#)

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