## **Press Release**

## AIT signs agreement with EU on 3.4 million Euro project

Sustaining and Enhancing the Momentum for Innovation and Learning around the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Lower Mekong River Basin

Bangkok, 14 December 2012:

Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand has been awarded a grant by the European Union for the implementation of the Action titled "Sustaining and Enhancing the Momentum for Innovation and Learning around the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Lower Mekong River Basin". The contract between AIT and the European Union was signed on 12 November 2012. The project implementation period is for 60 months with a total cost of approximately 3.4 million Euros. European Union will contribute 85 per cent of the total cost of Action (approximately 2.9 million Euros).

The main objective of the project is to contribute to enhance resilience of rainfed small-scale farmers of the Lower Mekong Region confronting climate change. The project will be implemented in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

The main applicant for this project is AIT along with its partners – FAO Regional IPM Programme in South and Southeast Asia, Oxfam America, and Institute of Development Studies University of Sussex in UK. The Associate partners for the project are the SRI-Rice secretariat of the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development (CIIFAD) in USA, and the University of Queensland in Australia.

For more information, please contact:

VAN DOORN Seth, EC press and information adviser Dr. Abha Mishra project manager, AIT (<u>abhamishra@ait.asia</u>)





A project implemented By the AIT

Address: Asian Institute of Technology, PO Box: 4; Klong Luang, Pathumthani, 12120, Thailand Tel: +66-2-524-5459 Fax: +66-2-524-6200 This project is funded by the European Union

Delegation of The European Union In Thailand, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kian Gwan House II, 140/1 Wireless Road, Bangkok 10330 Tel: +66-2-305-2700 Fax: +66-2-255-9113