



SDC

RIICE („Remote sensing-based information and insurance for crops in emerging economies“):

Thanks to satellite supported technology, forecasts of crop yields can be improved for millions of small rice growers in Asia to such an extent that it is now possible for insurance companies to offer them personalised micro insurance.

[Press release](#)

The SDC's partners in this project are AllianzRe, sarmap SA of canton Ticino, the German development organisation GIZ and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

Vetiver project:

In May 2012 the SDC launched an innovative partnership with the Swiss company Firmenich, a world leader in perfumes and flavours. About 80% of the oil from the vetiver plant, used all over the world in the production of perfumes as well as medicinal substances, is produced by small farmers in Haiti. The purpose of this project is to increase the efficiency and sustainability of all partners in the production chain. Initially the project will benefit 1,000 farmers. By the time it ends in 2020 however it is expected to involve some 30,000 producers.

[Project](#)

SECO

„Round table“ for the agrarian economy:

An example of SECO's economic cooperation in the area of development is the creation and application of voluntary standards in the private sector since the 1990s. A case in point is the promotion of the so-called "Round Tables" for specific agricultural raw materials such as bio-fuel, coffee, cocoa and wool. All interested parties including producers, trade and industry representatives and NGOs come together on a voluntary basis to agree on balanced criteria with regard to quality as well as environmental and social sustainability. The implementation of these standards not only improves the sustainability of production but also the competitiveness of the producers and their access to international markets.

Cleaner Production Centers:

In 1997, SECO began to set up Cleaner Production Centres which provide thousands of local companies with advice on how to improve their profitability and competitiveness with efficient and clean technologies. On average, savings in the use of resources of 30-50% have been achieved. To take one example, thanks to the introduction of new technology, a Colombian SME was able to reduce energy consumption by 30% and CO2 emissions by 60%. The increase in productivity immediately translated into improved competitiveness and rising exports.