Nam Hom coconuts, or aromatic coconuts, are a special coconut variety from Thailand known for their exceptionally fragrant water. The demand for these fruits from across the world has surged over the past few years. To keep up the supply, farmers have turned to monoculture and the use of heavy chemical inputs to boost their yields. The short-term focus of these practices is harming the environment and putting farmers and farm workers’ livelihoods at risk. In order to develop and incentivise more sustainable practices of coconut farming, the idea of the Regenerative Coconuts Agriculture Project (ReCAP) was born.

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• Harmless Harvest Thailand

Cooperation Partners
• Department of Agriculture
• Department of Agricultural Extension

Overall Term
1 June 2020 – 31 August 2023

Project Region
Thailand
• Nakhon Pathom | Ratchaburi | Samut Sakhon | Samut Songkhram

Objective
Support and train 350 coconut farmers to grow coconuts according to regenerative organic agricultural practices
Equip farmers with basic business skills to diversify and thereby increase their income
Establish a self-sustained entity that enables and supports continuous development of sustainable farming practices among the coconut communities of the so-called “Nam Hom Provinces”

Approach
1 Preparation
• Develop training materials
• Select 10 pilot farmers
• Baseline study
• Explore institutional partnerships

2 Pilot Phase
• Train master trainers & pilot farmers
• Define best practices for intercropping, cover crops, bees & organic inputs

3 Scale-up Phase
• Train 340 farmers on regenerative organic practices
• Identify solutions for farm workers

4 Exit Strategy
• Establish entity managed by community to support farmers
• Impact assessment

Expected Results
350 Coconut farmers are trained in central Thailand
800 Hectares are converted to regenerative organic agriculture
10% Increase of incomes through income diversification
Training Curriculum
Farm management, soil health, organic inputs, pest management & regenerative organic practices
Self-sustained Entity
Establishment of an entity to support regenerative organic farmers

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Regenerative Coconut Agriculture - Beyond Organic