

Key Initiatives Supported by Solidaridad in Sri Lanka

AI & AgriTech | Digital Content Studio | Smart Learning



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Tea Innovation Hubs:

Smart, Sustainable & Future Ready

A NEW DIGITAL RESOURCE FOR SRI LANKA'S TEA SMALLHOLDERS

The TSHDA **Digital Resource Centres**, established in Hantana, Colombo and Galle, are dedicated hubs for learning, innovation, and collaboration to support sustainable and regenerative tea cultivation in Sri Lanka. These centres empower tea smallholders, youth, and communities with the knowledge, tools, and digital technologies needed to build a resilient and environmentally responsible tea sector.

These tools support:

- Climate-smart agriculture
- Efficient farm management
- Improved soil health
- Better crop planning
- Environmental protection

WHAT THE INNOVATION HUB OFFERS

Smart Learning Facilities:

Modern classrooms equipped with digital learning tools to support training and knowledge sharing.



Demonstrations and training on digital tools

Digital Content Studio:

A studio where tea community members produce educational and social media content to promote sustainable tea.



Access to research and training materials

Technology for Smart Farming:

Knowledge and Publications:

THE INNOVATION HUB SUPPORTS:



Smallholders



Youth



Community Leaders & Cluster Groups



Government institutions and partners



Researchers and development organizations

Through these hubs, communities can learn, collaborate, innovate and share knowledge for a better future for Sri Lanka's tea industry. The Tea Innovation Hubs are open spaces for learning, collaboration and innovation. Farmers, youth, and stakeholders are invited to visit, learn, and contribute to building the future of Sri Lanka's tea sector.

Together we can grow better tea for a better tomorrow.



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Smart Tools for a Smarter Tea Industry

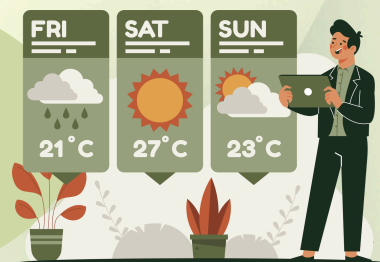
Modern technology is transforming agriculture around the world. These technologies help farmers understand their land, respond to climate conditions, and manage their farms more efficiently. Through the **Tea Innovation Hubs**, farmers will be able to learn about and use practical technologies designed for tea cultivation.

THESE TOOLS SUPPORT:



Weather Monitoring Systems

Helps farmers understand local weather conditions in real time. These systems provide information such as: Rainfall, Temperature, Humidity and Wind conditions. This information helps farmers: 1. Plan fertiliser and field operations, 2. Reduce crop damage from extreme weather, 3. Improve timing of agricultural activities and 4) Adapt to changing climate conditions.



Soil Testing Technologies

Allow farmers to quickly check important soil conditions such as: Soil nutrients, Soil fertility levels, Soil moisture & Soil quality indicators. By understanding soil conditions, farmers can: 1. Apply fertilisers more efficiently, 2. Improve soil health, 3. Reduce unnecessary input costs and 4. Increase long-term productivity

Mobile Applications for Farm Management

Using a smartphone, farmers can: Record farm activities, Monitor crop conditions, Map tea fields, Access weather information & Receive technical guidance. These tools help farmers make data-driven decisions for better farm management.



Climate & Environmental Monitoring

These tools track: Climate patterns, Environmental conditions, Farm landscape characteristics & Soil and slope conditions. By using these technologies, tea communities can adopt practices that: 1. Protect ecosystems, 2. Improve climate resilience and 3. Support sustainable tea production

At the hub traditional knowledge meets modern technology. Together we can create a tea sector that is: Productive, Climate-resilient, Farmer-focused & Globally competitive



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Asia Tea Alliance

One Voice for Asia Tea

The **Asia Tea Alliance (ATA)** is a regional platform that brings together major tea-producing countries of Asia to promote cooperation, sustainability, and innovation in the tea sector. By working together, ATA members aim to address shared challenges, strengthen tea smallholder livelihoods, and ensure the long-term sustainability of tea production.



MEMBERS

- Bangladesh
- China
- India
- Indonesia
- Nepal
- **Sri Lanka**

These countries collectively represent a significant share of the global tea industry, making collaboration essential for shaping the future of tea. This initiative was pioneered and championed by Solidaridad Asia. The current Chairmanship of the Asia Tea Alliance is held by Sri Lanka represented by the Tea Small Holdings Development Authority (TSHDA). The ATA Secretariat is managed by the Nucleus Foundation

A SHARED VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE TEA



Climate Action
& Regenerative
Agriculture



Empowering
Tea
Smallholders



Scientific
Cooperation &
Research



Digitalisation &
Knowledge
Exchange



Market
Development &
Consumer
Awareness

THE COLOMBO DECLARATION

At the 6th Annual Meeting of the Asia Tea Alliance in Colombo, Sri Lanka, members adopted the **Colombo Declaration on Sustainable Tea**, committing to a climate-resilient, regenerative, and inclusive future for the tea sector. The ATA promotes regional cooperation through exchange. It is also building digital platforms such as the ATA Digital Hub and ATA Digital Digest to strengthen communication and knowledge exchange across the sector. Working with governments, research bodies, smallholder organisations, and industry partners, the Alliance supports a tea sector that is sustainable, inclusive, innovative, and future-ready, ensuring Asian tea continues to be recognised globally for its quality, heritage, and sustainability.

Learn More

Visit the Asia Tea Alliance platform to learn more about its work, initiatives, and member countries.

www.AsiaTeaAlliance.org



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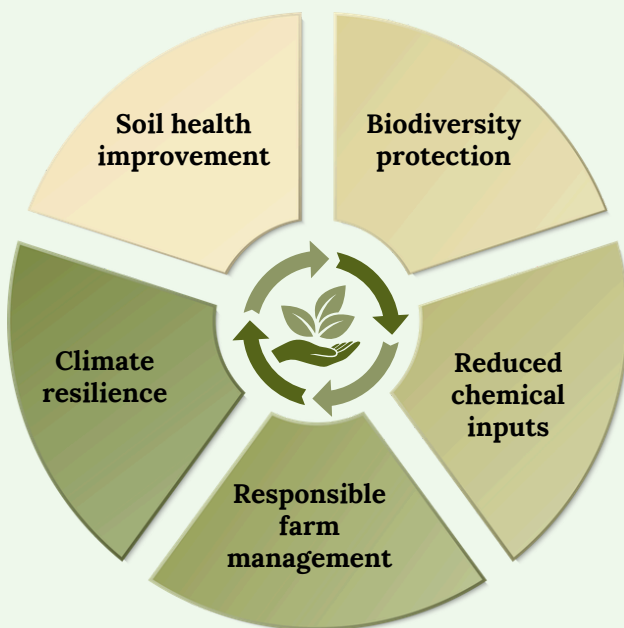
REGENERATIVE TEA

Healthy Soil, Stronger Farms & Sustainable Tea

Regenerative tea is tea grown using farming practices that restore soil health, protect biodiversity, and strengthen farm resilience to climate change. Through the **Regenagri** certification programme, tea farmers adopt practices that improve soil fertility, reduce chemical dependence, and ensure long-term productivity. For smallholder tea farmers, regenerative practices help reduce costs, improve soil quality, and stabilise yields over time.

WHAT IS REGENAGRI CERTIFICATION?

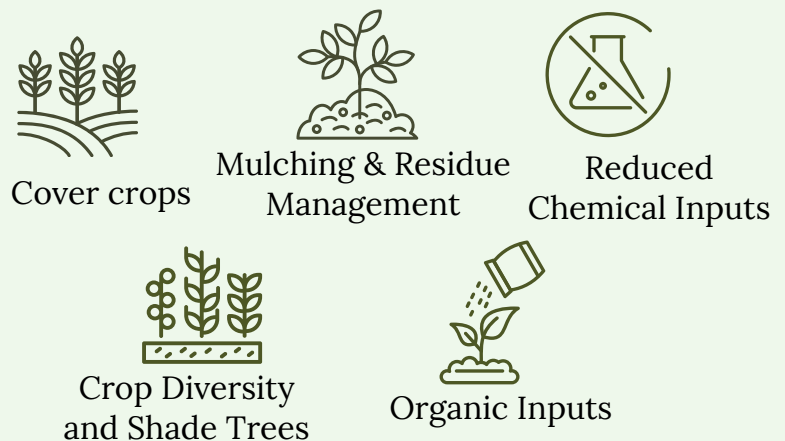
A globally recognised programme that supports farmers in adopting regenerative practices and verifies their environmental impact.



BENEFITS FOR TEA SMALLHOLDERS

- Improve soil fertility and long-term productivity
- Achieve more stable tea yields
- Reduce dependence on expensive chemical inputs
- Build climate resilience against drought and extreme weather
- Gain technical training and advisory support
- Strengthen market access through sustainable supply chains

KEY REGENERATIVE PRACTICES FOR TEA SMALLHOLDERS



GLOBAL ADVANTAGES OF REGENAGRI CERTIFICATION

- Meet global sustainability and climate commitments
- Reduce Scope 3 emissions in supply chains
- Improve traceability and transparency
- Support responsible sourcing by international buyers
- Strengthen brand value for sustainably produced tea

A NEW OPPORTUNITY

Sri Lanka's tea sector is largely built on smallholder farmers, who are particularly vulnerable to climate change and soil degradation. Through regenagri, smallholders can access global sustainable tea markets while protecting their land for future generations.

Learn More
www.regenagri.org



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Biodigesters

Turn Waste into Energy, Fertiliser, & Income



Tea smallholders face rising costs for cooking fuel and fertiliser, while livestock waste often goes unused. **Biodigesters** convert animal manure and organic waste into biogas for cooking and nutrient-rich bio-slurry fertiliser, helping farmers reduce fuel costs, improve soil health, manage waste, and strengthen farm sustainability.

KEY BENEFITS



Clean cooking gas



Organic fertiliser



Reduce cost, increase savings



Improve waste management



Protect the environment



Support climate resilient farming

BENEFITS FOR RURAL HOUSEHOLDS

- Women spend less time collecting firewood
- Reduced exposure to smoke from cooking
- Improved household sanitation
- Reliable cooking fuel even during bad weather

A SMART INVESTMENT FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

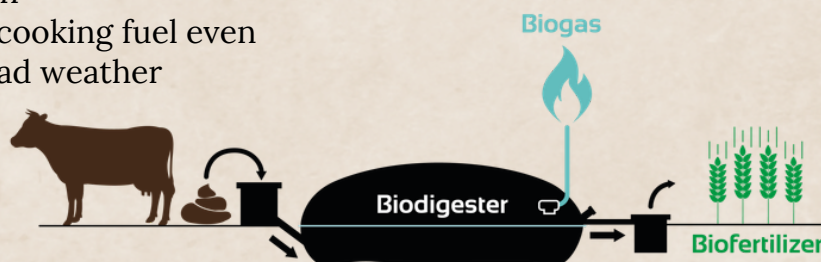
Modern biodigesters are:

- Easy to install
- Low maintenance
- Durable and long-lasting
- Suitable for small farms with livestock

A STEP TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE TEA FARMING

By adopting biodigesters, smallholders:

- Reduce farm and household costs
- Improve soil fertility and tea productivity
- Manage livestock waste efficiently
- Improve family health and wellbeing
- Contribute to climate-friendly agriculture



Biodigesters help transform tea farms into more sustainable, productive, and environmentally responsible farming systems.



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ATA Secretariat
C/O Nucleus Foundation,
Colombo, Sri Lanka
www.asiateaalliance.org

Solidaridad

Sri Lanka Office
73 Swarnadisi Place
Koswatte
Nawala
www.solidaridadnetwork.org



96 2nd Fl
Highlevel Plaza
Delkanda
info@nucleus.lk
www.nucleus.lk

