

Moe Swe Yee was born and raised in Myanmar. Her father is an education officer serving the townships of the Magway division where she grew up with her elder brother and three elder sisters. She is married to an agricultural extension officer in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, and they have two sons. After graduating from Yezin Agricultural University in Myanmar with her Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree in 1996, Moe Swe worked in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation before entering Khon Kaen University in Thailand, where she earned her Master of Science degree in Systems Agriculture in 2009. In 2011 she studied her doctorate in a new agricultural sciences course for international students called For the Global Future of Life, Food and the Environment at Kyoto University in Japan. In Japan Moe Swe conducted the research that analysed on the dynamics of cropping systems in the dry zone of Myanmar. She hopes her research will help improve the lives of small farmers in the dry zone, where the majority of farmers hold less than two hectares of land. These farmers generally practice subsistence farming where they need to produce a continuous, reliable and balanced supply of food as well as cash for basic needs and farm expenditures. These small, marginal landholders face different types of problems than large farmers. Moe Swe is helping develop suitable agricultural technologies adaptable with natural resources and climate change for single-crop production enterprises – her research focuses on food security, rural development for poverty alleviation, sustainable agricultural development and resource management. Moe Swe is now teaching in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation within the Department of Agricultural Extension Education.