

Science and Technology Backyard (STB) — China Agricultural University's In-Village Farmer Knowledge-Transfer Model

City Innovation Library · Good practice · China

Quality score: 90/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Since 2009, China Agricultural University has embedded graduate students in villages to co-develop farming practices with smallholders; a Nature-published evaluation credits the model with a 10.8–11.5% yield gain across 20.9 million farmers.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	3/3
Scalability	3/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	3/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

[China Agricultural University](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

[Penn Today: Agricultural sustainability project reached 20.9 million farmers across China](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

[China Daily: Science and technology backyards bridge research, rural vitalization in China](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

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