

20-22 January 2016 · Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines

# **Securing Water and Food:** a Private Sector Approach

Dr. Balu Maliakel, Chief Executive Officer, Akay Flavours & Aromatics, India

#### **Opening Session**

This is not an ADB material. The views expressed in this document are the views of the author/s and/or their organizations and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy and/or completeness of the material's contents, and accepts no responsibility for any direct or indirect consequence of their use or reliance, whether wholly or partially. Please feel free to contact the authors directly should you have queries.

## Akay Flavours & Aromatics



- We are a company involved in growing and processing spices like Turmeric, Ginger, Chillies, Black Pepper and export globally
- Working with about 10,000 contract farmers in India, Cambodia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka







## Our Challenges



El Niño

- Climate change is the biggest challenge our farmers face now
  - Rainy seasons are getting more intense and dry seasons are more severe
  - El Nino effects and long term climate change impacts
- Slow response of farmers
  - Initial high cost of technologies like drip irrigation
  - Agriculture subsidies effect farmer practices

### **Our Solutions**



- Working with our farmers to increase climate resilience:
  - Water Harvesting Ponds,
    Earth Dams, Spillways
  - All this coupled with drip irrigation
    and Fertigation system



#### **Our Solutions**



- Women Empowerment in Agriculture
- Training new young Agri- graduates from Universities





### Conclusions



- •Efficient usage of fresh water is key to food production and security
- Contract farming
- Technologies are a solution
- Capacity building is essential
- Access to quality resources