



SDG 2 – Indicator 2.5.3 - University access to local farmers and food producers

## Modernization of agriculture and farmers' welfare

Crop cultivation technology or agricultural production used by the community around the Sriwijaya University campus is still relatively simple. The slow adoption of modern technologies by farmers is not because advanced technology is not available around farmers, but because the technology offered is financially unaffordable for farmers. Even if the financial modal is made by the government through an interest-free loan, farmers are still reluctant to use advanced technology. The use of advanced technology means increased farming costs for farmers. On the other hand, an increase in land productivity is often followed by a decrease in agricultural commodity prices. So that increased productivity does not guarantee an increase in farmers' financial benefits, but it certainly leads to an increase in the operational cost of the farm.



The university's access to communicate and cooperate with farmers has been proven well for a long time. Programs to service the community have been an important part of Sriwijaya University since the beginning, reflected in the university's emblem that displays the phrase **'Ilmu Alat Pengabdian'**, which means knowledge for services.

Farmers are proven to willingly use more modern technology if the cost is more favorable to the farmer. Now for rice harvesting, farmers use rice harvesting services that use combine harvesters. This change in harvest is due to reduced labor and affordable wages for rice harvesting services by farmers. Farmers do not need to buy or own their own combined harvester.

The slow adoption process of modern technology is caused more by financial considerations than by the problem of farmers' readiness to use modern technology.