SRI in Timor Leste: The SRI Centre in Maliana

In the inaugural year of the **Movimento Co-operativa Econômica Agrícola** (MCE-A) SRI program, several milestones were met. First, the Maliana SRI Rice Centre was built. The Centre, shown below, houses equipment, produces organic fertiliser, and is used as a storage facility. It supports the work of 74 households from four local village communities.

Second, the harvest in July 2015 was a bumper. The Minister of Commerce and Industry Antonio da Conceição Kalohan and the RDTL Secretary of State Avelino Shalar Kossi cut the first sheaves from the field, with yields as much as 8 tons per hectare. In all, 165 tons of paddy were produced from 22 hectares.
Third, the rice has been marketed. Fifty tons, shown in the picture below, have been sold to government supplies with Oxfam’s support. The rest was sold on the local market from the respective co-operatives themselves, marking a significant rise in income for farmers. Things in Maliana are set to continue.