

# OVERVIEW OF CEDAC AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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## About Cambodian Agriculture

- Agrarian Society, 75 % of population depend on agriculture
- Total population: 14 mill
- Arable land: 6.00 to 6.5 mill ha; and actual cultivated land: 3- 3.5 mill ha
- Average land holding: 1.2 ha/family (five persons),
- More than 80 % of families with less than 2.00 ha of land
- Small farmers, especially rice farmers, are dominant

## About CEDAC

- CEDAC founded in August 1997 by 7 Cambodians, with initial support from GRET
- Our mission is to build "***a Cambodian society where small farmers enjoy good living conditions and strong mutual cooperation, with the right and power to determine their own destiny, as well as playing an important role in supplying healthy food for the whole society***".

## Overview of CEDAC core programs

- CEDAC field program:** *Capacity building*, leadership and management support to small farmers
- CEDAC Enterprise for Social Development Program:** *Developing markets* for farmer's products, especially organic products, and provide business and marketing support to the community
- CEDAC Institute for Local Development:** Building the capacity of **rural youth** to work for farmer organizations and community business

## Other program of CEDAC

### Research and Development Consulting Services

- Project feasibility and baseline study
- Project monitoring and evaluation
- Other research and development consulting services

### Publication and Communication

- Production of learning, information and extension materials
- Farmer to Farmer interactive radio program
- Production and distribution of information material on CEDAC

### Environment and Health

- Monitoring pesticides use and the other chemicals
- Consumer education and network
- Service in quality control and certification of organic products

## Overview of the program coverage and impact

- CEDAC work with **90,000 families** (5 % of farmer families); 450,000 people, to improve their living conditions and the conditions of their communities

- 2800 villages** ( 20 % of villages in Cambodia), 500 communes around 30 % of Communes) in 20 provinces (out of 24)
- More than **300 rural youth** are under ARD professional training program
- More than 1000 rural stakeholders, especially school teachers and local authorities are cooperating with CEDAC to promote self-reliant development
- 70,000 families improving agriculture production by using innovations in ecological agriculture, especially **System of Rice Intensification (SRI)**
- SRI introduced by CEDAC spread throughout Cambodia by government and NGOs (more than SRI 100,000 farmers)
- 4500 saving groups, 70,000 members (women are more than 50 % ), 1.6 million USD savings
- 8000 small producers linked to markets

## Overview of CEDAC field program

Our field program focus on capacity building, leadership and management support in:

- Farmer to Farmer Extension
- Saving groups and networks (Saving for Self-Reliance)
- Producer organizations
- Cooperative Business Organization
- Community Development/Local Development Association
- Farmer Water User Communities

## Farmer to Farmer Extension

- Identification and selection of potential farmers to support to be **key farmers** and farmer **promoters**
- Training of key farmers and farmer promoters
- Supporting the establishment of demonstration and learning farms
- Developing and supporting network of key farmers and farmer promoters to provide technical services and inputs (seeds, chick, piglet, fingerlings etc) to other farmers

## Saving groups and networks

- Identification of interested **villagers** to work with on the formation of village-based saving groups
- Training of group leaders
- Support the formation of village association of saving groups
- Training of village-based saving animators
- Developing network of VSA
- Capacity building and management support to network coordinator

## Producer organizations

### A. Assist the formation of producer groups

- Organic rice producer cooperatives
- Organic vegetable producer groups
- Chicken producer group
- Pig producer and marketing cooperative

### B. Capacity building and management support to the leaders and managers of the groups and cooperatives

### C. Linking producers to markets developed by CEDAC

## Cooperative Business Organization

- Types of cooperative business**
- Community Shop
- Rice Mill Cooperative
- Animal Feed Cooperative
- CEDAC assistance**
- Facilitating the process of setting up cooperatives
- Capacity Building of leaders and managers
- Supporting networking among cooperatives leaders
- Linking to potential investors

## Community Development/Local Development Association and its Network

### Capacity building, mobilization, leadership and management support to different levels of organization

- Village Development Network, VDN (Network of representatives of village-based self-help groups)
- Commune Development Network, CDN (Network of VDN representatives)
- District Network or District Development Association (Network of commune Network Representatives)
- Provincial Network (Network of district representatives)
- National Network of Provincial Network Representatives

## Product Market development

- Operating 3 CEDAC- **Natural Agri-Product Stores** (NAP stores) in Phnom Penh
- Wholesale and distribution** of NAP products to retailers, super markets, hotel and restaurants in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and Sihanouk Ville
- Business and marketing and investment support to **community business/Cooperative Business**
- Consumer education** program via radio, information materials, consumer meetings and consumer field visit

## Professional training of rural youth

- Target groups: **Rural High school graduates, children of poor families**
- Career of trainees: Farm manager, manager of farmer organization, saving group animators, community business and community development facilitator
- One-year intensive training and one-year follow-up training
- Training linked with actual **field work**, one to two week training and two to 3 weeks field and home work assignment

## Summary of the key strategies: *What we can do, we will do our best*

- Building capacity of farmers by using **self-reliant** and **positive thinking** and **market based** approach
- Integration of production, business/marketing and saving/credit** support to create synergy effects in one particular area

- ❑ Selecting **potential local leaders/group leaders and entrepreneurs** to building their capacity to develop, lead and manage learning farms, farmers organizations and community business
- ❑ Encouraging and supporting **network among group leaders/local leaders, rural entrepreneurs** for the purpose of learning, sharing, mutual empowerment and collective action for mutual benefits
- ❑ Investing in **rural youth** to be rural leaders, entrepreneurs, rural animators, and managers of producer organizations and cooperatives
- ❑ Engaging **local authorities** to be involved in integrated rural development program and supporting the development of **good local governance**
- ❑ Mobilizing fund from **socially responsible investors** to support community/cooperative business

*What we can do, we will do our best*

