

FSP appui aux politiques sectorielles agricoles

**Support to
Cambodian Farmers' Organisation Task Force**

Aide-mémoire

Mission from the 10th to the 19th of January 2006

Cirad - Ciepac

JF Le Coq
MJ Dugue
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Context of the mission

The mission was carried out by MJ Dugue and JF Le Coq from the 10th to the 19th of January 2006 in Cambodia. It takes place within the agenda of the FSP “Appui aux politiques sectorielles agricoles” (Component 2: Farmers’ Organizations). This mission consisted in the last step of the support to the Cambodian FOs’ Task Force initiated in September 2005. It was focused on the provision of pedagogical materials on FO and support to FOs.

Objectives of the mission:

The general objectives of the mission were the following:

- For the experts, to test the pedagogical materials prepared to help the members of the Cambodian FO TF to complete their skill on FOs and FOs support as well as being in position to train other Cambodian practitioners supporting FOs.
- For the participants, to develop their knowledge and skill on FOs and their pedagogical skill
- To consider the future of the FO TF and initiate the elaboration of an action plan.

Content of the mission

To achieve the objectives, the following activities have been implemented:

- Development of training workshops targeted on practitioners supporting FOs ; this step consisted in 3 parts :
 - in Phnom Penh (4 days), the activity was dedicated to the preparation of pilot training provincial training workshops, on the basis of the pedagogical materials prepared and presented by the experts;
 - in 2 provinces (Kompong Cham, Battambang) : 2 day pilot training workshop were carried out by the members of the task force (see Appendix 1) in presence of the experts, and with the trainees identified at the end of the November workshop;
 - debriefing about these workshops;
- A debriefing and conclusion time about the whole process with the participants, with first discussions about a possible future action plan for the FO TF
- Debriefing with project coordinators to design the follow up activities.

Main Results of the mission

• Institutional support to Coordination team

As Julie Couturier left Cambodia, there is actually no coordinator for this component in Cambodia. A new young expert should arrive in Cambodia in February 2006.

The second presentation¹ of the inventory results has been postponed.

The mission enables to share comments on the existing version of the inventory. The recommendation concerns several points:

(1) the conclusion should include some recommendations in term of new issues that ask for further investigation

¹ A first presentation of the preliminary results was done during the workshop « Collective assessment of FOs situation and support to FOs in Cambodia” held in Phnom Penh in September 2005 (MJ Dugue, JF Le Coq, 2005b)

(2) it would be useful to add :

- a comprehensive presentation to introduce the Cambodian case studies presented in the report,
- an index to help practitioners to better use this inventory in their activities,...

Finally, by including new synthetic information on FOs situation and the system of support in Cambodia, the document should be more useful for stakeholders working in Cambodia and could be entitled “Overview of FOs and support to FOs in Cambodia”.

No further institutional support has been designed, nevertheless the experts will meet the further coordinator of this component in France before its departure to Cambodia to inform him of the latest results of the support process.

- **The Workshop “Preparation of the pilot training workshops”**

(For more details on the content, the schedule, and results of the activities carried in Phnom Penh and in the provinces, see the specific detailed report - (Dugue & Le Coq, 2006))

To summarize, the workshop enabled:

- ⇒ To train further the participants (members of the FOs task force) in term of FOs analysis and support methodology as well as on pedagogical skill (preparation and implementation of the pilot training workshop)
- ⇒ To test the pedagogical materials prepared by the Cirad- Ciepac team.
- ⇒ To design some following activities (see below).

- **Beyond the support process initiated by Cirad- Ciepac team**

The support process initiated in September 2005 by the Cirad Ciepac team enabled to create a group of staff from different institutions (Ministries and NGOs) who have a shared knowledge on FOs (in Cambodia, and in other countries), shared references and common methodology to analyse FOs and to support them.

Follow Up activities

Coordination team and Ciepac- Cirad team agreed on the following tasks:

- **Activities of Coordination Team:**

- ⇒ Finalization of the “Inventory” of Cambodian FOs
- ⇒ monitoring of the implementation of the translation of materials to Khmer

- **Activities of Cirad-Ciepac Team:**

- ⇒ finalization of the pedagogical materials
- ⇒ finalization of the worldwide case studies

Conclusion

This mission confirmed the relevancy of the process initiated in September 2005.

A task force on FOs in Cambodia has been constituted, then reinforced, through: 1) the collective assessment of the situation of FOs in Cambodia, 2) the enlargement of the scope of experience thank to the presentation of worldwide case studies, 3) and especially the last step consisting in providing a comprehensive set of sheets on FOs functions and methodology to

support FOs, and implementing pilot training workshops; the participants constitute now a group that shares common references on FOs and support to FOs methodology. This group is now in position to develop activities such as further training to practitioners, to design a Cambodian guideline to strengthen and develop FOs in the country, and to better define and address issues of FOs in Cambodia.

Nevertheless even if the progression has been very satisfactory regarding skill improvement and team building, this group still needs a day-to-day support to precise some objectives that they defined at the end of the workshop (developing and deepening training on FOs, developing training guideline for practitioners and FOs) and to implement actions to reach these objectives.

References

JF Le Coq, 2005b – report of the Workshop “Lessons learned from worldwide experiences”, Cirad-Ciepac.

MJ Dugue, JF Le Coq, 2005b – report of the Workshop “Collective assessment of FO’s situation and Support to FO’s in Cambodia”., Cirad-Ciepac, 28 p.

MJ Dugue, JF Le Coq, 2005a – report of the mission from the 13th to 22th September -, Cirad-Ciepac, 8 p.

JF Le Coq, 2005a – report of the mission from the 01 to the 02 july 2005, Cirad-Ciepac, 15 p.

Appendix 1: Detailed program of the mission

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| Tuesday, Jan. 10 th | Arrival in Phnom Penh |
| Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Jan., 11-13 th | In Phnom Penh : Workshop to prepare the pilot training workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - presentation of the training materials - collaborative preparation of methodology and content to be presented in the province |
| Saturday, Jan. 14 th | Preparation of complements and training Materials |
| Sunday, Jan. 15 th | Travel to provinces |
| Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 16-17 th | Provincial pilot training Workshops In Battambang and Kompong Cham |
| Wednesday Jan., 18 th | Travel to Phnom Penh Workshop in Phnom Penh (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - debriefing and lesson learned - complementary training material presentation |
| Thursday 20 | Workshop in Phnom Penh (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - design of follow up activities - evaluation of the Workshop and the whole process Debriefing with project leader (JM Bouvard) |