OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM



DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 11 May 2021 16:00 GMT +07:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Agroecology and Safe Food Systems Transition
Convened by	Dr Seng Vang, Director of the Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management of the General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/17001/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Cambodia

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Small/medium enterprise/artisan		Workers and trade union
Large national business		Member of Parliament
Multi-national corporation		Local authority
Small-scale farmer	2	Government and national institution
Medium-scale farmer		Regional economic community
Large-scale farmer	3	United Nations
Local Non-Governmental Organization		International financial institution
International Non-Governmental Organization		Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
Indigenous People		Consumer group
Science and academia		Other
	Small/medium enterprise/artisan Large national business Multi-national corporation Small-scale farmer Medium-scale farmer Large-scale farmer Local Non-Governmental Organization International Non-Governmental Organization Indigenous People Science and academia	Small/medium enterprise/artisanILarge national businessIMulti-national corporationISmall-scale farmer2Medium-scale farmer3Large-scale farmer3Local Non-Governmental OrganizationIInternational Non-Governmental OrganizationIIndigenous PeopleScience and academia

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

This event was designed to present progress made, planning and commitments for agroecology and safe food systems transition in Cambodia. The event was part of the '4 per1000' Fair for EU Green Week 2021 and involved by national and international participants..

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The dialogue reflected a joint commitment on the part of the many international and national partners associated with the Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium (CASIC), the Department of Land Resources Management of the General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, CIRAD, Swiss Contact, Kansas State University and the Agroecology Learning Alliance in South East Asia (ALISEA). The partners are linked to various projects including the Agroecology for Safe Food Systems Transition Project (ASSET), the Centre for Excellence in Sustainable Intensification and Nutrition (CESAIN) and the development of MetKaksekor. This commitment reflects the principles of acting with urgency, commitment to the summit, recognition of complexity and embracing multi-stakeholder inclusivity. This event marked significant new investment, a strong history of research and development and the commencement of new initiatives bringing together new capabilities and experience to support a game changing approach to agricultural sustainability in Cambodia.

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

Use social media to promote high level events in webinar format using live streaming online or links to recorded video to allow wide participation and increase awareness of events. with so many Zoom meetings taking place it is important to provide information on forthcoming events for the potential attendees.

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

Yes

No

This event was based on a detailed presentation and participants were well versed in the content. It served as a statement of commitment to the plans presented. Ongoing discussions required to extend the discussion, especially engagement with a larger population of farmers and technical staff and to gain the support of environmental stakeholders.

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

The focus of this event was to promote food and agricultural systems in Cambodia and in neighboring countries are more sustainable, safer and inclusive through synergizing initiatives contributing to Agroecological and Safe food system transitions from local to regional levels, The event proposed critical linkages with value chains to extend the model of agroecological farming by encouraging Soil Organic Carbon sequestration and rewarding farmers for the production of ecosystem services. The event described the research and enabling environment to engage the public and private sectors and to reward farmers for Soil Carbon Sequestration through: estimating SOC storage potential and benefits; developing adapted management practices; defining and strengthening the enabling environment; and exploring carbon markets.

ACTION TRACKS

	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
/	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
	Action Track 5: Ruild regiliance to

Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS



Cambodia commits to achieve an economic growth rate of 7% per annum to reach an upper-middle income country by 2030. Agriculture is a key driver for economic development. Achieving a sustainable agricultural growth at 5% per annum aims to achieve the Royal Government of Cambodia's objectives for food security, poverty reduction, and increased climate resiliency. There is a need for the Cambodian agriculture sector to reinvent itself by shifting from increased production through land expansion and excessive use of inputs towards sustainable intensification. The low level of crop diversification in the uplands and cultivation of legume crops are largely missing. Along with no-till systems, these practices can help in preserving soil fertility, increasing soil C and are essential for an agroecological transition. The development of agricultural practices in Cambodia is rooted in development issues designing agroecological cropping systems and assessing their impacts and performance.

There is ongoing research to develop a soil infrared calibration for determination of soil organic carbon supported by two key projects with the DALRM of the General Directorate of Agriculture. This includes the on-going work of the Global Soil Partnership updating SOC stocks at national scale with potential comparison of land uses (DALRM/ GDA & FAO) and a project on Infra-red Spectroscopy (2021 – 2022, ASSET/FFEM, GDA/DALRM & CIRAD).

The research and educational platforms supporting the transition are broad with both national and international linkages including a 5 year roadmap under design for a National and Regional Training Center on CA/SI & Agroecology (Bos Khnor); support to farmer groups, seed producers of cover crops and agricultural cooperatives; long-term experiments (from 2009 onwards), a strong partnership of agronomists, research institutions, higher education, NGOs. In addition, the efforts are supported by CE SAIN with five Technology parks in contrasting agro-ecosystems; the Agroecology Learning Alliance in South East Asia (ALISEA) which brought up stakeholders' concerns; and the Agroecology in South East Asia platform (ASEA). Private sector engagement is an important aspect of the thrust, including Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium (ASMC) run by RUA and the Sustainable Intensification and Innovation Laboratory (SIIL) of the Kansas State University. It is vital to engage the private sector right along the value chain for the sustainability of the transition. Private sector actors are involved in providing technology, inputs, operational know how and access to finance to support the transition.

The transition is also supported through MetKaksekor, an "opening the market" early adopter led extension service model. MetKasekor focuses on opening the market for private sector investments on Sustainable Intensification via government agents and the private sector to provide access to services for smallholder farmers in Cambodia.

Training and research will be facilitated by the Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium (CASIC) under the MAFF which aims to become a platform for promoting conservation agriculture and sustainable intensification towards agroecological transition in Cambodia and Southeast Asia. The consortium brings together the resources and capabilities of the government and the development partners under the management of the MAFF.

Under the Nationally Determined Contributions for climate change adaptation and mitigation ASSET will contribute to Adaptation Action no. 1 through an agroecological transition in the uplands of Battambang and to Mitigation Action no. 25: Increasing the effectiveness and sustainability of agricultural land management techniques (Conservation Agriculture). While waiting for formalisation of carbon certification, ASSET will contribute to 1.Enrolling in carbon registries; 2.Mobilizing farmers to join; 3.Collecting data about baseline carbon levels; 4.Verifying emissions reductions; and 5.Selling carbon.

ACTION TRACKS KEYWORDS Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and Finance Policy nutritious food for all Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable Innovation Data & Evidence 1 consumption patterns Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive Governance Human rights 1 production Women & Youth Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods Trade-offs Empowerment Action Track 5: Build resilience to Environment vulnerabilities, shocks and stress and Climate

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

ACTION TRACKS

Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all

Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns

Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production

Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods

Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

sate and	Finance	Policy
ble	Innovation	Data & Evidence
itive	Human rights	Governance
e livelihoods	Women & Youth Empowerment	Trade-offs
D S		Environment and Climate

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There are possibly three key areas of divergence that sit as obstacles to conservation agriculture, sustainable agriculture and agro-ecological transformation:

1. The difference between the mainstream thrusts for modernization of agriculture and the misinterpretation of conservation agriculture as something driven by the views of conservationists, who are out of step with the drive for modernization, production increases and productivity improvements in agriculture (where land degradation and other externalities like climate change are un-costed).

2. The situation of poor farmers who are unable to wait for the medium to long term (and somewhat uncertain) benefits identified by scientists and policy makers who are keen to reverse the degradation trends and environmental costs. Short-term and immediate benefits are required for most farmers and especially for the poor.

There is also a trade-off in terms of lack of secure tenure or longer-term expectations over agricultural land and unwillingness to invest in the long-term productivity of individual parcels of land in the face of immediate needs and prospects of land sale for other purposes.

ACTION TRACKS

KEYWORDS

	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all	1	Finance		Policy
	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns		Innovation		Data & Evidence
1	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production		Human rights	1	Governance
	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods		Women & Youth Empowerment	1	Trade-offs
1	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress			1	Environment and Climate

ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

RELEVANT LINKS

- Sustainable Farming to Sustain Cambodia's Future
 <u>https://vimeo.com/121032329</u>
- Evaluating carbon sequestration for conservation agriculture and tillage systems in Cambodia using the EPIC model <u>https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joao-Carlos-Sa/publication/319763209_Evaluating_carbon_sequestration_for_conservation_agriculture_and_tillage_systems_in_Cambodia_using_the_EPIC_model/links/59ceccc6a6fdcc181abb64c0/Evaluating_carbon-sequestration-for-conservation-agriculture-and-tillage-systems-in-Cambodia_using_the_EPIC_model/links/59ceccc6a6fdcc181abb64c0/Evaluating_carbon-sequestration-for-conservation-agriculture-and-tillage-systems-in-Cambodia_using_the_EPIC_model/links/59ceccc6a6fdcc181abb64c0/Evaluating_carbon-sequestration-for-conservation-agriculture-and-tillage-systems-in-Cambodia-using-the-EPIC-model.pdf</u>
- Formation of conservation agriculture and sustainable intensification consortium in Cambodia
 https://www.swisscontact.org/en/news/watch-formation-of-conservation-agriculture-and-sustainable-intensification-consortium-in-cambodia

CORRECTIONS, ADJUSTMENTS, OR CHANGES - 1/2

Title Agroecology and Safe Food Systems Transition

Date 24/05/2021

Array

RELEVANT LINKS

 Dynamics of soil aggregate-associated organic carbon based on diversity and high biomass-C input under conservation ag riculture in a savanna ecosystem in Cambodia <u>https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0341816220306159</u>

CORRECTIONS, ADJUSTMENTS, OR CHANGES - 2/2

Title Agroecology and Safe Food Systems Transitions

Date 24/05/2021

Addendum: With apologies for errors in text for: Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management (DALRM) Centre for Excellence on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Nutrition (CE SAIN) Metkasekor and to emphasise the role of the Royal University of Agriculture in the partnerships supporting agroecology and safe food transitions.

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