Implementation of AGRIS in Cambodia

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AGRISurvey objectives in Cambodia

• Main objectives:
  – Provide data on temporal agricultural situation in the Kingdom of Cambodia to be utilized by planners and policy-makers
  – Create a sustainable, efficient and progressively autonomous annual agri-survey system
  – Generate data to inform the SDG
  – Promote best practices and innovational data collection technologies

• Partnership:
  – Implementing partners: National Institute of Statistics of the Ministry of Planning & Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
  – Development partner: FAO
  – Program initiated in 2018, covering the 2019 and 2020 survey cycles
Past two survey cycles timeline

**• CIAS 2019 timeline:**
  - Preparation phase: Feb.-Apr. 2019
  - Training: May-Jun. 2019
  - Listing: 24-30 Jun. 2019 (6 days)
  - HH holdings survey: Jul. 2019 (14 days)
  - Juridical holdings survey: Oct.-Nov. 2019 (14 days)
  - Data cleaning / imputation: Nov. 2019-Feb. 2020
  - Tabulation & reporting: Mar.-Jun. 2020
  - Validation & finalization: Jul. 2020-Jan. 2021

**• CAS 2020 timeline:**
  - Preparation phase: Jul.-Oct. 2020
  - Training: Nov.-Dec. 2020
  - HH holdings survey: Dec. 2020-Jan. 2021 (14 days)
  - Tabulation & reporting: Aug.-Nov. 2021
  - Validation & finalization (tent.): Dec. 2021-Jan. 2022

Survey implementation delayed due to COVID-19 pandemic
## Cambodia Agriculture Survey under the AGRISurvey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>CIAS 2019</th>
<th>CAS 2020</th>
<th>CAS 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sample</strong></td>
<td>1,350 EAs, all 25 provinces</td>
<td>Longitudinal (CIAS 2019)</td>
<td>1,381 EAs, all 25 provinces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target sample size</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household holdings</td>
<td>16,000 HH holdings</td>
<td>15,982 HH holdings</td>
<td>16,567 HH holdings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juridical holdings</td>
<td>447 juridical holdings</td>
<td>447 juridical holdings</td>
<td>470 juridical holdings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Field team</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>6 (6 NIS)</td>
<td>11 (11 NIS)</td>
<td>11 (11 NIS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Supervisors</td>
<td>40 (40 NIS)</td>
<td>46 (46 NIS)</td>
<td>46 (46 NIS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Supervisors</td>
<td>44 (22 NIS + 22 MAFF)</td>
<td>46 (22 NIS + 24 MAFF)</td>
<td>46 (22 NIS + 24 MAFF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enumerators (incl. JH)</td>
<td>365 (215 NIS + 150 MAFF)</td>
<td>368 (218 NIS + 150 MAFF)</td>
<td>377 (237 NIS + 140 MAFF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Survey results</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening</td>
<td>101,383 HH screened</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH Survey</td>
<td>15,994 (99.9% RR)</td>
<td>14,722 (92.1% RR)</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JH Survey</td>
<td>186 (41.6% RR)</td>
<td>197 (44.1% RR)</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AGRISurvey outputs to date

- Report Release Workshop on 9 Feb. 2021:
  - CIAS 2019 Survey Report in KH & EN
  - CIAS 2019 Mapping Report in KH & EN
  - CIAS 2019 Statistical Brief in KH & EN
  - SDG 2.3.1 Labor Productivity produced and mapped
- All available online:

- CIAS 2019 Thematic tables released publicly in March 2021:
  http://camstat.nis.gov.kh/#/?locale=en&page=1&term=

- CIAS 2019 Micro- and metadata released publicly in April 2021:

- CAS 2020 outputs expected for early 2022, including SDG 2.3.1, 5.a.1 + social sub-indicators of SDG 2.4.1
Lessons learned from the AGRISurvey Implementation (1)

- **CAPI mode data collection**: tablet based (fleet of 420 devices at the time)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Challenges during AGRISurvey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Less or no paper printout</td>
<td>• Limited battery capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Improved data accuracy</td>
<td>• GPS setting issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Faster data availability</td>
<td>• Limited technical specifics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Lower costs</td>
<td>• Limited tablet literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Quicker data access (cloud)</td>
<td>• Lack of CAPI understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Sooner data analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Additional functionalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Increased sample size</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Limited battery capacity
- GPS setting issues
- Limited technical specifics
- Limited tablet literacy
- Lack of CAPI understanding

→ Powerbanks
→ 3G/4G network, ≠ company depending on location
→ Tablets set to use work apps only; non-work apps blocked
→ Training includes ample role play & field practice time
→ Yearly CAPI training; advanced courses proposed; subtitles produced in Khmer

~30% tablet fleet (120 devices) renewed for the CAS 2021 survey
# Lessons learned from the AGRISurvey Implementation (2)

- Field team exclusively made of government staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros (compared with external recruitment)</th>
<th>Challenges during AGRISurvey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Staff availability</td>
<td>• PDP/PDA staff ≠ trained enumerators:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Faster recruitment</td>
<td>• Less exp. with interview techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Lower costs overall</td>
<td>• Less exp. with ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Capacity building at provincial level</td>
<td>• Less exp. with data flows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Survey system &amp; data owned by RGC</td>
<td>• Limited tablet literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Improved survey results credibility</td>
<td>• Lack of CAPI understanding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

→ Improved training materials; same staff re-hired each year based on satisfactory results on previous survey

→ New skillset can be reused on other surveys

→ Improved statistical system sustainability and government autonomy in conducting surveys

→ Results also validated at provincial level (one validation meeting per province)
# Lessons learned from the AGRISurvey Implementation (3)

- **Listing phase** (CIAS 2019 & CAS 2021) vs. **longitudinal design** (CAS 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listing phase</th>
<th>Longitudinal design</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Opportunity to use an updated sampling frame</td>
<td>✔ Possibility to prefill data:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Opportunity to produce updated sampling weights</td>
<td>- Time saved during interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Time consuming</td>
<td>- Data quality/consistency improved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Costly</td>
<td>✔ Comparative analysis possible between the two concerned survey rounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✔ Sample attrition → affects statistical power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✔ Tracking effort = costs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CIAS 2019 & CAS 2020 used sampling frame from Cambodia Agriculture Census 2013 while CAS 2021 uses updated sampling frame from General Population Census 2019 → More accurate estimates, higher reliability

→ Thematic paper activity ongoing to compare longitudinal data from CIAS 2019 & CAS 2020 and estimate the early COVID-19 impact on agricultural sector in Cambodia (contribution only)
Lessons learned from the AGRISurvey Implementation (4)

• Implementing the AGRISurvey in COVID-19 pandemic context:
  - National travel restrictions → delays in pre-test, data collection activities and field missions
  - International travel restrictions → data dissemination activities canceled or conducted online
  - Gathering restrictions → delays in validation meeting and release workshop

 ⚠️ Adaptative solutions were the only way to keep the AGRISurvey working

Online training sessions

Safety measures & protective equipment supplied during training & field work
50x2030 Initiative: Cambodia onboarding process

- **Jul. 2020**: Cambodia Onboarding Inception Meeting
- **Aug. 2020**: Follow-up Onboarding Meeting
- **Dec. 2020**: Proposal to integrate Agriculture survey and Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey
- **Sep.-Nov. 2021**: Negotiation with MEF
- **Nov. 2021**: MEF approval; PIP and Country Commitment signed by NIS & MAFF
- **Nov.-Dec. 2021**: Agreement and LoAs signed, fieldwork activities started
- **Feb.-Sep. 2021**: Program Implementation Plan production, including 5-years budget plan

5 survey cycles, until 2026
Lessons learned from the onboarding process

• Close to 1.5 years to complete the onboarding process, mostly due to:
  – COVID-19 context slowing all processes down
  – Lengthy administrative, operational and financial processes on both the development partners’ and the country’ side
  – Situation specific to Cambodia: transition AGRISurvey → 50×2030:
    • Need to close existing Letters of Agreement before starting new LoAs
    • Need to explain to Ministry of Economy and Finance about the implications of such transition
    • Onboarding process run while still implementing the survey cycle (conflictual activities in terms of time and human resources management, prioritization needed, etc.)
    • Might be easier in countries with no existing current agricultural survey agreement

• Budget discussion between RGC and PMT went rather smoothly due to previous experience with AGRISurvey
Recommendations about the 50x2030 onboarding process

• Onboarding countries to anticipate the need for **senior government officials with strong technical & financial knowledge**

• 50x2030 Program Management Team and FAO to improve clarity over the onboarding processes and materials (standardized reporting tools, templates, definitions, etc.)

• Co-financing is key to a successful 50x2030 implementation:
  • Onboarding countries must be ready to commit to **progressively incremented financial and in-kind contribution...**
  • ... while the 50x2030 PMT must show **understanding and flexibility**, especially regarding current world economic context and specific countries’ budgeting rules.
Thank you!

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