

*CFS 50 - Special Event Food Systems Transformations. Building long-term resilience to global crises
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Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium (CASIC) in CAMBODIA



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I. The need to establish Cambodia Conservation Agriculture Sustainable Intensification Consortium (CASIC)



- II. Conservation Agriculture (CA), Sustainable Intensification (SI) and Agroecological approaches are providing benefits by reducing soil erosion and increasing soil fertility, responding to current challenges caused by rising oil and fertilizer prices. CA/SI and agroecology activities have been implemented in Cambodia since 2004;
- III. However, these activities have not scaled up widely due to the lack of participation from the private sector and other stakeholders in the field of conservation agriculture.
- IV. To turn CA & SI into a commercial venture, there is a need for all market actors including; farmers, seeds/crop providers, agriculture cooperatives, tractor owners, middlemen (brokers), manufacturing workshops, training institutions, financial institutions, retailers and input suppliers etc. to come together;
- V. Therefore, there was a need to establish the **Cambodia Conservation Agriculture Sustainable Intensification Consortium** (CASIC) in order to work together on addressing these issues and make CA & SI more accessible to farmers through market actors offering appropriate services;
- VI. CASIC was established by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in May 2020.
- VII. Cambodia joined the Coalition for the transformation of food systems through agroecology in 2022 expecting to both gain support through learning from experiences in other countries and to contribute to the shared experience of realising food system transitions in Cambodia.



II. CASIC Steering Committee and Executive Board Committee

A. Steering Committee consists of:

- i. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries;
- ii. Ministry of Interior;
- iii. Ministry of Environment;
- iv. Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology;
- v. Ministry of Women Affairs; and
- vi. Ministry of Education Youth and Sports.



i. Council for Agricultural and Rural Development

6+
1+
1

i. Cambodia Chamber of Commerce
(Representative of private sector)

B. Executive Board Committee consists of:

- i. General Directorate of Agriculture;
- ii. General Directorate of Animal Production and Animal Health;
- iii. Department of Agriculture Land Management;
- iv. Department of Agriculture Engineering;
- v. Department of Extension for Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries;
- vi. Department of International Cooperation; and
- vii. Department of Planning and Statistics.



i. Royal University of Agriculture; and
ii. Cambodia Development and Research Institute.

7+
2+
9+
3

i. Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (9 Provinces)

i. CIRAD;
ii. Swisscontact Cambodia; and
iii. CE SAIN



III. Systemic Approach of CASiC

CASiC facilitates Bottom-up solutions to promote CA/Sl and Agroecology in Cambodia

Research: Centre of Excellence

A five-year strategic plan is developed. Aspiration for regional centre of Excellence.



Extension (Metkasekor)

Public-private model. Piloting is underway. Embedded in the government system.

Skills/Human Resources

InGuider (apprentice) model established. Need to integrate regenerative agriculture in the curriculum



Formed as a government coordination mechanism



Technologies and practices (Cover crop & machineries)

Companies in cover crop production/distribution. Companies in no-till machineries and other equipment



Transition Financing (Dei Meas - Golden Soil)

A 3-year pilot is under-way. Setting up certification and verification system including carbon credit

Thank you for your attention