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EXPERIENCES

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Developing and Promoting Family Agriculture in Cambodia

(A project led by CEDAC in Cambodia)



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Summary

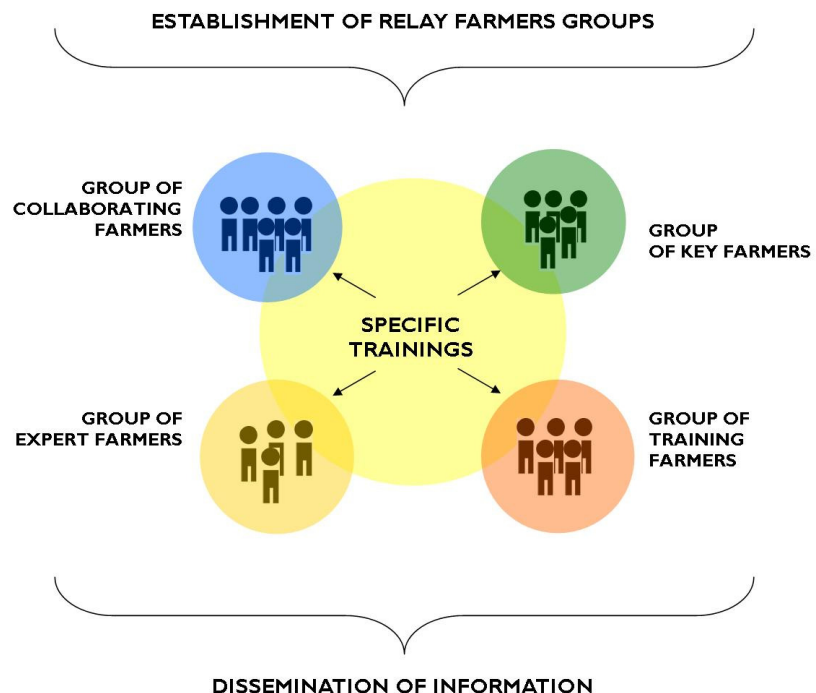
To develop local agriculture and thus improve the livelihoods of the poorest farmers in Cambodia, CEDAC set up a program based on establishing farmers' networks and intermediaries. Each group participates at its own level to the sharing of innovations. In a village, and beyond...

Objective :

The overall objective of the project is to improve the livelihoods of Cambodian farmers and empowered them into their own development. The project seeks to improve agricultural productivity and production, and to help peasants organize collectively, all by means of environmentally-friendly approaches.

Methodology :

The adopted approach seeks to develop the dissemination of innovations through a network of farmers that promotes the sharing of experiences and know-how.



This approach ensures better ownership of the innovations and an adaptation to the geographical and cultural contexts. The network is characterized by farmers acting as point persons and involved at different levels. The typology refined by CEDAC distinguishes between:

1. *Farmers who collaborate* by applying one or several innovations;
2. *Key farmers* who drive the project in their villages by disseminating innovation in their community;
3. *Expert farmers* who have acquired a good hold on one or several innovations, play a support advice role and can welcome farmers from other villages to share their experiences; and
4. *Training farmers* who carry out several innovations and are selected by the project to raise awareness and provide training in new villages.

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Results :

1. **Improve agricultural production and increase farmers' incomes by adopting and adapting agricultural innovations:**

7,157 farmers implement about 20 agricultural innovations. The results recorded that 5,283 families have started market farming, 1,230 of which selling their products on local markets and drawing in revenues that have ranged between 150,000 and 3,400,000 riel over a period of 15 months.

2. **Increase social dialogue between farmers and other actors:**

638 farmers groups have been created.

Sources :

Report by CEDAC and CFSI
Impact Study