2nd Cambodia Development Cooperation Forum

SESSION III

Agriculture Productivity and Diversification

Thinking about future directions for agriculture in Cambodia

Development Partners' Overview

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An unevenly population distribution on the national territory

Population is concentrated in main rice growing areas, with increasing growth in peripheral regions

“Rice & central Cambodia”

vs

“Forest & peripheral Cambodia”

a central and populated Cambodia

12.1 millions inhabitants
> 200 inhab./km²
agriculture > 55 % of the territory

a peripheral and sparse Cambodia

1.3 millions inhabitants
< 15 inhab./km²
agriculture < 5 % of the territory

Consequences on agriculture

Current cropped area < 20 % of the country surface

75 % of the farms < 1,0 ha
80 % farms not connected to market

Economic land concessions (ELC)
Great variety of soils

Subsistence farming in the populated area

Commercial farming and pressure on natural resources in the sparse area

Peripheral Cambodia … A large "public land reserve"

Where and how to plan for sustainable, equitable development ?

Total area of Cambodia		Agricultural area		Great Lake		Protected area		
18.0	**-**	**3.0**	**-**	**1.5**	**-**	**3.5**	**=**	**10 millions hectares**

How this area can support smallholders agriculture and contribute to poverty reduction ?

Which direction for agriculture in peripheral areas ?

Perennial crops

Species/ sector

- Rubber, Cashew
- Fruits
- Bio-energy (?)
- Wood

Constraints

- a limited choice of species (rain, soil)
- rigidity of the production systems
- poor people excluded if no support

Agro-industrial sector

- Plantation

Annual crops and livestock

Species / sector

- Principal: Maize, Rice, Cassava, Soy.
- Secondary: Sesame, Bean, Sorghum …
- Tertiary: Cotton, Sunflower …
- Cattle rearing, Pig and Poultry

Opportunities

- high species diversification
- flexible production systems (/ market)
- more accessible for poor

Agro-industrial sector

- Contract farming

Major national / regional infrastructures (transport, energy) already planned

A need for comprehensive planning for agricultural, rural development and natural resource protection

How to adjust Productivity and Diversification ?

Productivity
Rice intensification

Diversification
Prerequisite: Family food security

Productivity
Extended cropland x Sustainable manag^{t}

Diversification
Agronomical possibility x Market needs

Central Plain

Productivity

Through Rice intensification (increase yield)

Diversification

Based on: Livestock / Fish
Secondary grains
Fruit / Vegetables

Issues

* Small farms size / tenure
* Technology / know how
* Water management
* Lack of capital
* Market linkages

Ways ?

* Land reform / titling
* Agronomy / irrigations
* Research / extension
* Rural finance
* Business enabling environment

Peripheral regions

Productivity

Diversification

Through expand area of cultivation

Issues

* Resources allocation
* Managing migrations
* Soil fertility and sustainability
* Natural resources competition

Ways ?

* Natural resources management
* Land use plan / SLC
* agro-ecology
* Agricultural development plan

	Main driving force	
	PRIVATE	**PUBLIC**
Central Plain	* **Services** - farmer org., contract farming * **Market function** - supply chain, link producers market * **Private investment** - SMEs, Ag. business	* **Services** - Land titling, extension * **Market support** - Quality control, trade promotion, legal framework, enabling Priv. Sector environ. * **Public investment** - Road, irrigation ...
	PUBLIC	**PRIVATE**
Peripheral regions	* **Planning** * **Legal framework** * **Infrastructure**	* **Technical transfer** * **Capital** * **Market linkage**

Main issues

- Strengthening the RGC ownership of the strategy for agriculture and water (SAW) and coordination of the TWG AW works
- Need to evolve from a project to program approach to align all supports
- Need to explore the current RGC reforms to implement the programs with efficiency
- Need to develop an enabling environment for private sector involvement and PPP (in relation with Trade SWAp)
- Need to engage a fruitful dialogue on land planning in peripheral area with line Ministries
- Need to increase public investment

How to combine efficient and pro-poor agriculture with country planning

Today
2008: 13,4 mill. inhab.

Tomorrow
2020: 16,0 mill. inhab.

Strategic policy

- Planning
- Legal framework
- Public investment

Implementation

- Public-private partnership
- Research & extension

Where to from here?