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# Organic Production & Certification in Cambodia

Impact of Pesticide use on Agriculture and Environment  
(GRET, Mediaseeds)

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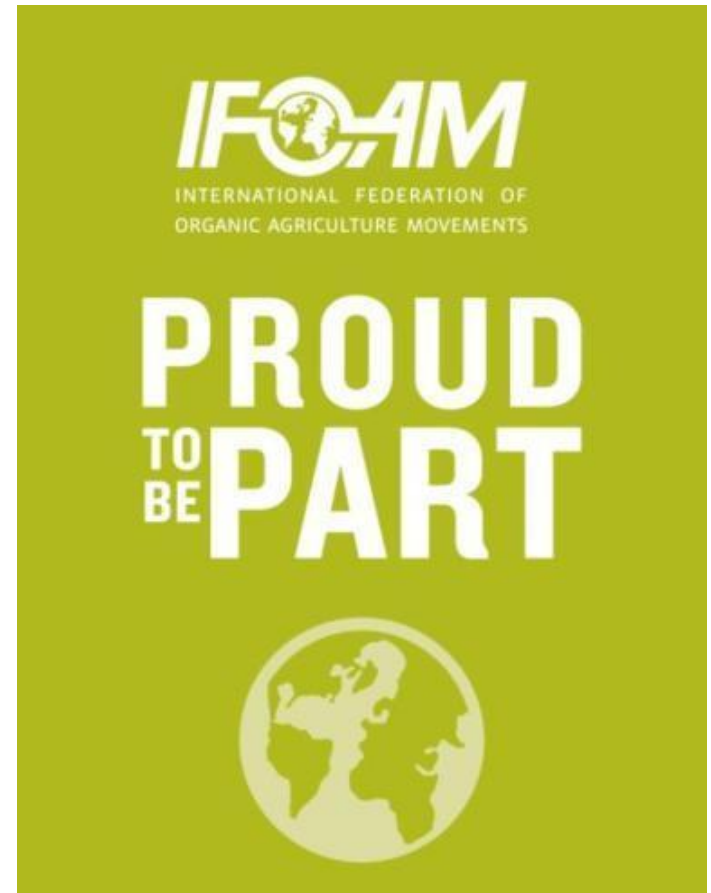
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**Cambodian Organic Agriculture Association (COOrAA)**

Phnom Penh, March 18th 2019

# About COrAA

- COrAA was founded in 2006
- Registered as **business association** with MoC
- 13 members (2018)  
(10 companies, 2 NGOs, 1 Cooperative)
- COrAA is a member of **IFOAM**



# Current situation

## Vegetable

- 2011: 71 members of Svay Rieng Agro-Products Cooperative (SAC) were certified as chemical-free by COrAA
- 2012: Same members were certified as organic .
- 2017: SAC sold 75 tons of organic vegetable to Phnom Penh
- 2018: Certification is on hold because of water quality issue.



# Current situation

## Pepper

- 8 operators have been certified in the past
- 2 operators are member of KPPA (Kampot Pepper Promotion Association) and inspected by Ecocert.

## Moringa

- 1 operator was certified in the past (



# COrAA Organic Standard

## COrAA adopts CertAll Standard



### **CertAll Standard:**

- Developed based on the ASEAN standard (compliant with ASOA; ASEAN Standard for Organic Agriculture)
- Compliant with IFOAM standard (will be submitted to get revised by IFOAM)
- Will be used to certify for EU equivalent by ACT (Thai certification body)

# COrAA Certification Scopes

- **Crop Production**

Certification of agricultural crops; rice, vegetables, fruits, herbs, sprouts, mushrooms, seeds and plant propagation materials.



- **Processing and Handling**

Certification of processing and handling of organic products.

Processing: modification of raw agricultural produce.

Handling: selling, processing or packaging



- **Grower Group with Internal Control System (ICS)**

Certification of a group of producers. Central operator must establish and implement ICS to ensure the compliance of the organic production of all members to COrAA organic standards.



# Basic Principles for Crop Production

- Shall use **organic seeds or planting material** when commercially available
- Any **use of chemical substances** (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides) is **not allowed**
- Farms must be **fully organically managed** for at least 12 months (annual crops) or 18 months (perennial crops) to be certified organic
- **No use of GMOs** in all steps of production



# Basic Principles (2) for Crop Production



- **Restriction** of the use of **raw manure**
- **Maximize** the use of **on-farm organic resources**
- **Minimize** the use of **brought-in organic materials**
- **Crop production management** such as crop rotation, the use of cover crops to promote the **health of crops**
- Establishment of **buffer zones**



# Basic Principles for Processing & Handling

- **No co-mingling and contamination** of organic products
- **No use of GMOs and irradiation**
- The use of **certified organic ingredients** as far as possible
- **Record keeping system** to track organic products
- Maintenance of **clean and hygienic** processing facilities, equipment, containers and storage
- **No artificial** colors and preservatives



## Requirements for Labeling & Claims

- A minimum 95% of the ingredients must be organic to be labeled as “Organic”
- Label must fully disclose ingredients in order of their weight percentages and whether they are organic.
- Use of the organic mark on packaging must be approved before use.

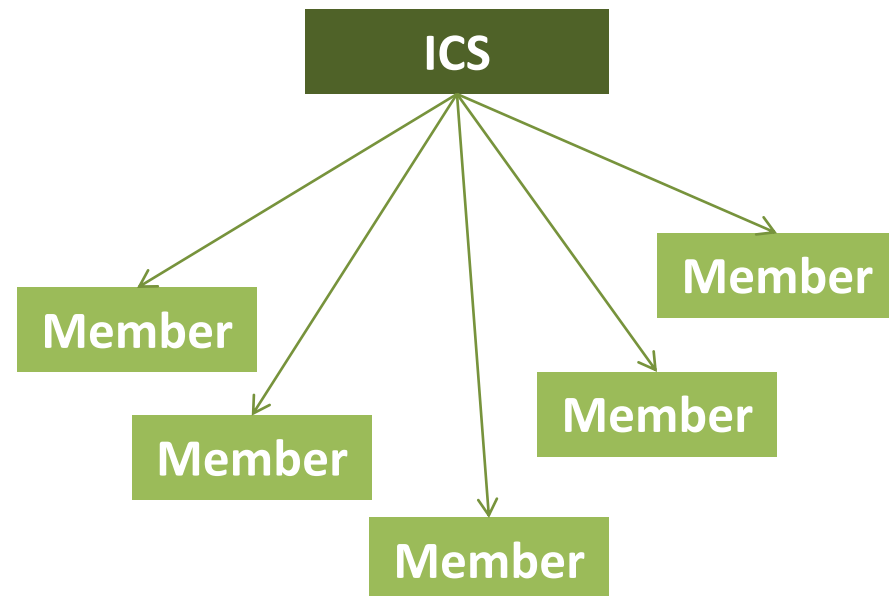
Etc...

# Basic Principles for Grower Group

- A group must be organized under one management and have a coordinated marketing system
- A group operator must establish and implement Internal Control System (ICS)
- ICS must conduct inspection visits to all members' production at least once a year

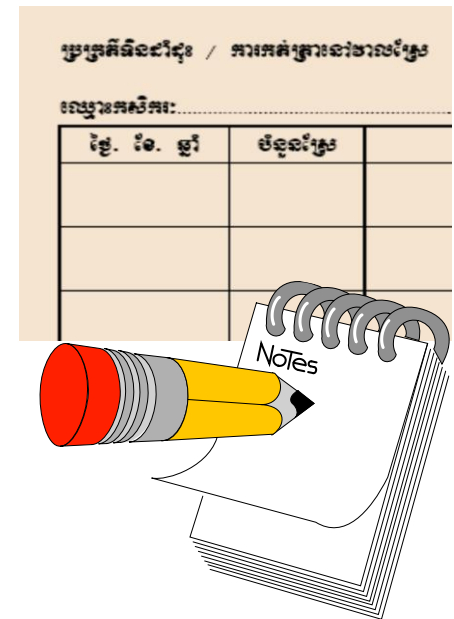
## CORAA's inspection

- Sample inspection:  $\sqrt{n}$  or 10
- Evaluation of ICS to ensure that ICS is functioning



# Certification Requirements

- Farmers must **maintain up-to-date records**; farm activities, sales, etc...
- Operators must **maintain records**; production records, cleaning records, pest control records, etc...
- Operator must **allow inspector to check** all land holdings, production documents.
- Operator must **inform COrAA** immediately if there is any **changes** in certified production.



# Purpose of Standards and Certification

- to **harmonize provisions** for the production, verification scheme, identification and labeling of organically grown produce
- to **protect consumers** against deception and fraud
- **Certification** assures consumers that the producers have followed the standards

- END -





GrKuNi

Thank you!

