



**GRET**

Professionals for  
Fair Development

# APICI Project - Cambodia -

**29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – Siem Reap**

# Current Project

## Developing Sustainable Agriculture for Smallholders Farmers

Partners:



Donor:



*To increase incomes and improve the livelihood of smallholders' farmers by developing **sustainable agriculture** based **on low inputs** and **diversification** of the production.*

- 54 villages, 7 communes, 2 districts in Siem Reap Province
- Around 2000 farmers involved

# Intervention area

- **Scarcity of water** & irregular rainfall
- Production for **self-consumption** (300m<sup>2</sup>, 3 to 4 months)
- Limited technical knowledge on vegetable production
- **Low** levels of crop **diversification** on farm (1 to 2 crops)
- Unclear habits of **chemical pesticides** use
- **Proximity to city markets** (located at 30 to 50 km)
- **Poor markets linkages** (no market information)



# Urban and rural linkages

***How to respond to market requirements in terms of***

***(i) diversity of offer***

***(ii) regularity of crops along the year***

***(iii) sufficient quantity***

***With fresh, local and agroecological production supply?***



# Strategy of intervention

- ✓ **Intensification & diversification** of agricultural production through enhancing local resources recycling and reducing chemical inputs use;  
***AE transition meaning dynamic and synergies, need to accompany the transition of permanent search***
- ✓ Facilitating participatory **emergence of collective action** by the setting up of farmers' organizations,
- ✓ Supporting the development of **local-farmers-collector business** to improve rural and urban linkages;
- ✓ **Improving domestic market access** for fresh, local and environmental-friendly vegetable in order to respond to local demand and proximity markets in Siem Reap.



# Promoting Agroecology



# Agroecology practices



Seed saving



Mitigate conventional plant protection



Recycling local resources available on farm



# Agroecology practices



Raised vegetable bed



Water saving



Mulching



Enhancing crops diversification

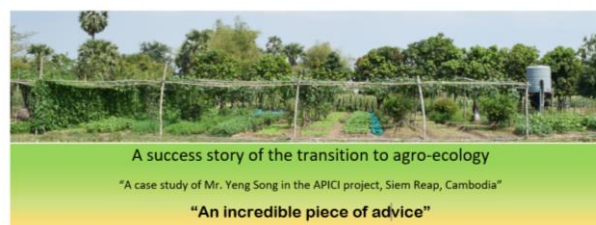


# Dissemination method

- Key aspects: level of **knowledge** complexity, **workload** required and **impact** of the practices;
- Conduct **practical training** at farm level and set up on **farm demonstration**;
- **Associate farmers** in building technical and economical **references** to document their practices in order to **produce field-evidence knowledge**;
- **Create playful, motivating, visual** and engaging communication **materials**.



# Examples



Mr. Yeng Song is a 50-year-old man from a farming family, whose main crop is rice. He lives in Kok Russey Cheung village, Dan Run commune, Sotr Nikum district, Siem Reap province. Rice growing is the main source of income in his



Search



Agroecology practices introduction in Siem Reap Province, Cambodia



# Dissemination method

- Set up **agroecological pilot farmers network** to encourage collective learning and sharing knowledge and experience;
- Building farmers capacity **to analyze their own technical and economic farm results**;
- Train farmers on video making shooting and editing techniques **to document their agroecology practices**.

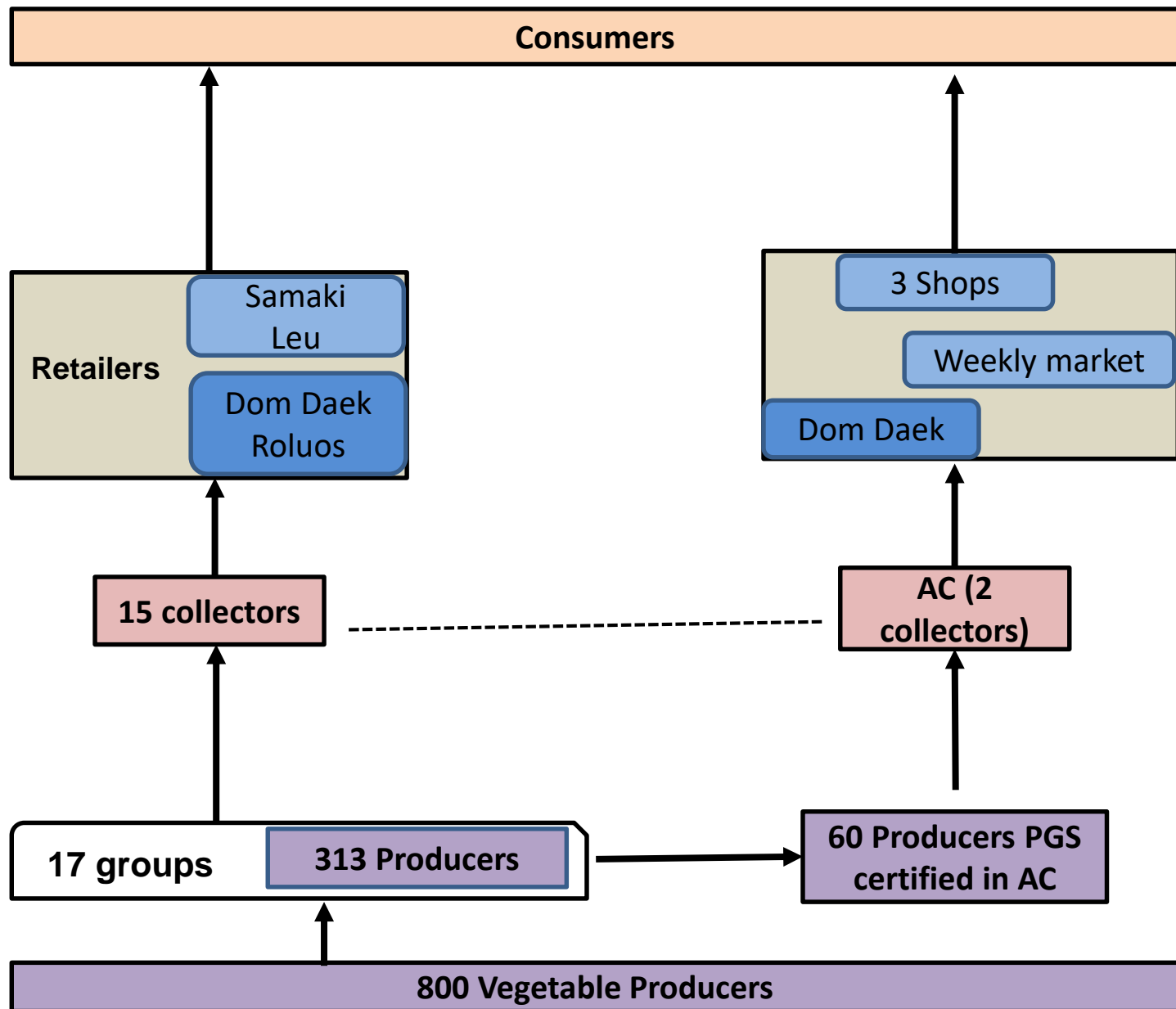
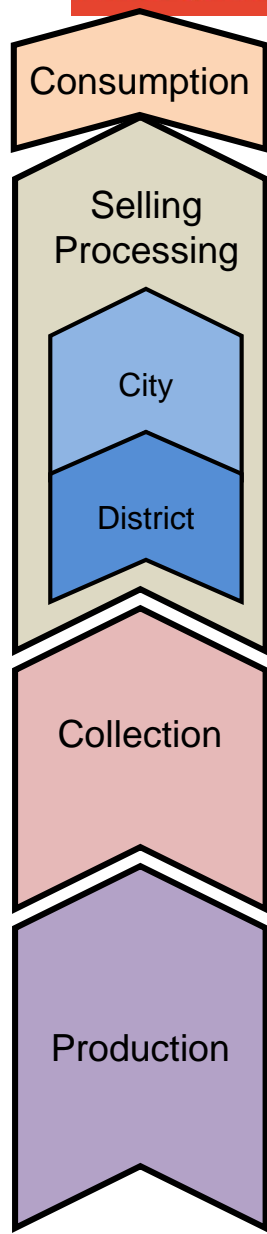




# Improving access to market



# Vegetable Value Chain



# Access to market

## Providing training to farmers and collectors on:

- (i) Harvesting and storage techniques,
- (ii) Quality classification of vegetables,
- (iii) Production cost calculation,
- (iv) Sharing market information with annual data record and price board information,
- (v) Setting up planning tool with crop calendar.





# Implemented process

## Safe & Environmental-Friendly Standard

relying mainly on

- composting practices for soil fertility management,
- banning the use of chemical pesticides,
- enhancing diversification on farm,
- using water saving techniques.

## PGS certification

to increase visibility of local products,  
to ensure trust and transparency for consumers,  
to reward farmers efforts with premium price.



# Adoption of Agroecology

## Driving forces

- Interest to improve agricultural practices
- Inheritance of knowledge
- Sensitivity to risks towards health and environment
- Capacity of replication, strong social link
- Access to market

## Constraints

- Workload, need full-time investment
- Lack of labor force
- Difficulty to access to local resources
- Access to information
- Limited education
- Difficulty to innovate and stand out from others





THANK YOU

