



Agroecological initiatives: empowering youth, building local knowledge

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Chivet & Dey Local NGO

Founded in 2017
Based in Battambang
Fund by Vivre de sa Terre, French NGO
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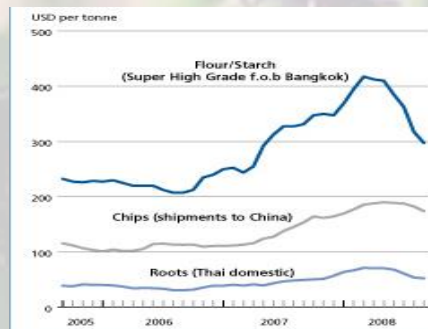
Agricultural Context

- Smallholder farming is Cambodia first employer
- 9/10 Cambodian live in the countryside
- Median age is 24 years

Agricultural jobs are regarded as exposed to



Global warming



Volatile prices



and hard

...not profitable, and lacking of social protection ?

→ **Sustainability of smallholder farming in the next generation ?**

To answer about **Climate change issues**,
Our promoting **Agroecology for young smallholder farmers**

- **Appropriate knowledge access**
- Land access
- Small credit facilities
- Appropriate machinery access
- Add value of local products



Agroecology requires accurate knowledge about soil fertility and ecosystems management

**1. Empowering young :
Two-years vocational
training in Agroecology**

**2. North-western
Cambodia Plant Inventory
Project use in agriculture**

Empowering young: **Two-years vocational training in Agroecology**

- **Associate degree program for 14 students (6 women) from poor families** → Providing free education and full board
- **To become pilot farmers or field technician** → Future actors of the sustainable development in Cambodia



A modern training including:

- Current and local issues, including climate change
- Scientific knowledge and analytical skills → **Teaching students to think for themselves**

Field activities training including:

- Practical skills → composting, natural pesticides, set up of crops, association and rotation etc.
- Involvement in the rural development with farmers → discovery of the job of social worker/technician



Compost class



Association of corn and cover crop



Compost class from students to farmers



Sharing skills with farmers

North-western Cambodia Plant Inventory Project

Agroecology requires an accurate knowledge of the plant diversity

In Cambodia, **data missing or incomplete**

→ Impediment to the dissemination and implementation of agroecology

→ To study local biodiversity with an **agroecological approach** to improve the **performances of agroecosystems**



Approach of Plant inventory

- Selection and organize of the plant's characteristics:
Focus on **leguminous species and cover crops**
- Coding **online database** about plant of agricultural interest in three languages: English, French, and Khmer

The main tasks are now:

1. To search, **select the available data** from the scientific literature
2. To **collect the missing data** from field and laboratory analysis
3. To **test the most interesting plants** on our experimental plots



Thank you for your attention !

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