

# Towards the establishment of a Regional Training Center on Agroecological and CA systems

Presented by Florent Tivet

Regional Forum Agroecology Futures, 6-8 November 2018, Siem Reap, Cambodia

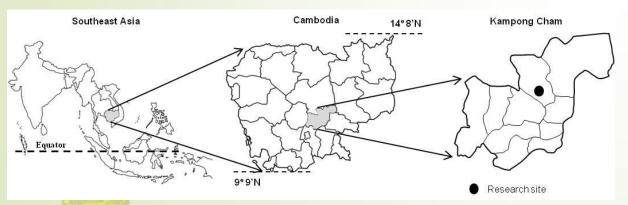








### Legend: B. Large Scale Demo (Cropping System Design) C. Forage / Cover Crop Germplasm Collection D. Organic Cropping System E. Food / Cash Crop Germplasm Collection F. Living Cover / Mulch G. Academic Research Trial (Upland Rice-based Cropping System) H. Academic Research Trial (Soybean-based Cropping System) I. Academic Research Trial ( Cassava-based Cropping System) K. Grain and Seed Production Demo



## Background

#### An ideal location

- Bos Khnor, Kampong Cham province, Cambodia
- At the crossroad of several regional countries
- 15ha land dedicated to experiments, seed preservation and training
- Facilities: office, seed store, training rooms, dormitory (men and women) and fields

## Different components aggregated

## Large expertise and longest experiments under CA in South-East Asia (since 2004)

- Design and assess the transition towards agro-ecological systems (technical requirements including mechanization, performances and ecological balance shifts)
- Preservation of a large genetic bank, sedd production and sharing
- Capacity building (farmers, development practitioners and academia/research)
- Building a scientific recognition through analytical studies (Soil organic C dynamics and others soil functions)

#### A long-term and collective effort

- General Directorate of Agriculture: DALRM, DAEng
- RUA, Center of Excellence of Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Nutrition (CE SAIN), CIRAD
- AFD, USAID The Feed the Future, CCCA/UNCCD

## A range of cropping systems including appropriate-scale machinery





## Different components aggregated

Assessing Plant – Soil biota interactions C dynamic, Nutrient cycling, Soil structure

Evaluating and selecting cover/relay crops and diversification

Testing Appropriate-scale machinery

Design and assessment of agro-ecological systems

Plant
Soil aggregation
Microbial communities

Plant, roots,
Mix of cover/relay crops

Plant, population, timing, mix of cover/relay crops

Spatial and temporal arrangement

## Genetic banks: preserving, producing seeds and sharing





> 50 species and > 300 cultivars of staple, cash crops and under-utilized species

## Analytical studies and building a scientific recognition

#### **CASE STORY 4**

**Conservation Agriculture** for Climate-Resilient Rain-Fed Uplands in the Western Regions of Cambodia

Challenges, Opportunities, and Lessons from a 10-Year R&D Program

Rada Kong, Veng Sar, Vira Leng, Sopheak Trang, Stephane Boulakia, Florent Tivet, and Lucien Seguy





**Evaluation of Long-Term SOC and Crop Productivity** within Conservation Systems Using GFDL CM2.1 and EPIC

Kieu N. Le 1,2,\*, Manoj K. Jha 3, Jaehak Jeong 4, Philip W. Gassman 5, Manuel R. Reyes 6, Luca Doro 4, Dat Q. Tran 7 and Lyda Hok 8

Agricultural Systems 166 (2018) 90-100 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Agricultural Systems journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/agsy



Evaluation of the performance of the EPIC model for yield and biomass simulation under conservation systems in Cambodia





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment



Short-term conservation agriculture and biomass-C input impacts on soil C dynamics in a savanna ecosystem in Cambodia



Soil & Tillage Research 177 (2018) 125-133 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Soil & Tillage Research





Enzymes and C pools as indicators of C build up in short-term conservation agriculture in a savanna ecosystem in Cambodia

Lyda Hoka,b, João Carlos de Moraes Sác, Manuel Reyes, Stéphane Boulakia, Florent Tivet, Vira Leng<sup>8</sup>, Rada Kong<sup>8</sup>, Clever Briedis<sup>h</sup>, Daiani da Cruz Hartman<sup>d</sup>, Lucimara Aparecida Ferreira<sup>d</sup>, Thiago Massao Inagaki<sup>i</sup>, Daniel Ruiz Potma Gonçalves<sup>d</sup>, Pamela Thaísa Bressan<sup>c</sup>

> Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment 251 (2018) 37-47 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/agee

Evaluating carbon sequestration for conservation agriculture and tillage systems in Cambodia using the EPIC model



 Peer-review articles (SOC dynamics and functions)

Pooling together different teams on different topics (national and international: RUA/CE SAIN, ITC, IRD, CIRAD, TUAT, CIAT)

Pheap et al., forthcoming





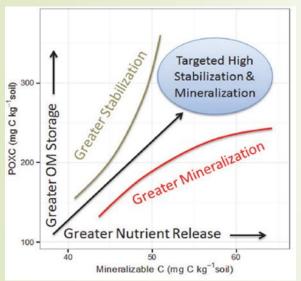


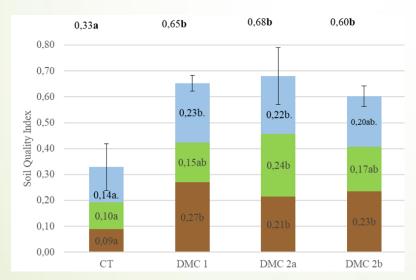


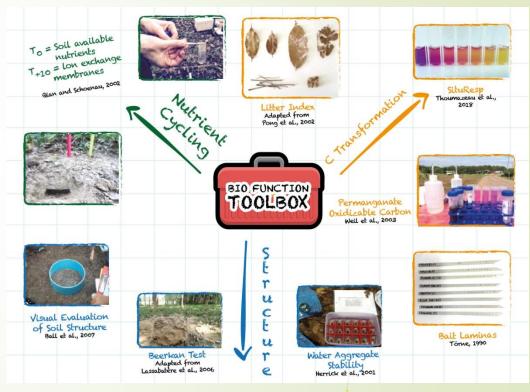


## In situ and decision making tool

Developing in situ tool that will be used on-farm to assess early changes in soil fertility under contrasted soil & crop management practices







## Capacity building, sharing know-how, knowledge and tools

Training on vermiculture (HORT IL)







Seed swap organized with ECHO Asia, Penn State University, RUA (Aug. 6th, 2018)

## Example of the last training

- Over 80 participants: 50 farmers, 30 development practitioners and academia, 6 provinces
- 2 days training
- Seed saving, seed production, Soil health, IPM
- Several teams as trainers: ECHO Asia, Penn State (WAgN), RUA, Horticulture Innovation Lab, GDA/DAEng/DALRM

Training on Seed saving and production, Soil health and Integrated pest management



- 5th and 6th August 2018
- Training on seed saving, seed production of under-utilized species, soil health and integrated pest management.
- Organized by the Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management (GDA/DALRM), CIRAD, Royal University of Agriculture (RUA), ECHO Asia, Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab (CE SAIN, WAgN, ASMC) and Horticulture Innovation Lab.

Bos Khnor Station, Conservation Agriculture Service Center, Technology Park CE SAIN, Chamcarleu district, Kampong Cham, Aug. 5 and 6

## A deep connection with on-farm networks

- Alternatives cropping systems for rice, maize, cassava, use of underutilized species and cover/relay crops
- Empowering farmers into seed production and building connections with private sector (Battambang)
- Diversifying rice-based cropping systems around the Tonle Sap Lake (expectations of over 200 ha: Battambang, Kampong Thom provinces)
- On-farm testing and adjusting of appropriate-scale machinery and building connections with service providers (demand-creation process, Battambang)

## Perspectives

- To develop a regular curricula over the years for smallholder farmers, development practitioners and academia/research.
- To design an economic model for the training center that is viable.
- To increase the diversity of practices and production systems within the Center and to integrate trees in the landscape.
- Attract additional partners, academia and donors to sustain the activities (field operations and training).

## Thanks to all teams and donors involved



























#### CAMBODIA CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE











## Thanks for your attention



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