



## **ALiSEA NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024 IN CAMBODIA**

Phnom Penh, 22 November 2024



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## Citation

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## **List of Acronym**

|        |                                                                                                            |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AE     | Agroecology                                                                                                |
| ALiSEA | Agroecology Learning alliance in South East Asia                                                           |
| CASA   | Cambodia Agriculture Sciences Academy<br>Cambodia Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification |
| CASIC  | Consortium                                                                                                 |
| FFS    | Farmer Field School                                                                                        |
| FO     | Farmer Organization                                                                                        |
| GA     | General Assembly                                                                                           |
| IPM    | Integrated Pest Management                                                                                 |
| MAFF   | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries                                                            |
| NGO    | Non-Governmental Organization                                                                              |

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## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1. Overview**

Agroecology (AE) is a science, a practice and a social movement that applies ecological and justice principles to the design and management of sustainable and fair food systems.

Referring to the Agroecology Learning alliance in South East Asia (ALiSEA) network in Cambodia, it is supported and coordinated at national and regional level by GRET. ALiSEA's goal is to enable local and regional agroecology stakeholders to leverage one another's expertise to produce evidence-based studies and share them broadly to support a regional transition towards agroecology.

In Cambodia, it gathers 77 members with diverse backgrounds, including NGOs, farmers' organizations, universities, private sector, and governmental institutions. The ALiSEA National General Assembly 2024 was conducted on 22 November 2024 at Cambodiana Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

### **1.2. Objectives**

The ALiSEA National General Assembly 2024 in Cambodia had specific objectives as follows:

- To welcome the new members of 2023;
- To present and share ALiSEA progress activities in 2023 and 2024 and updates/results on the call for proposal 2023 from ALiSEA Small Grant Facility;
- To share key results of the Regional ALiSEA General Assembly in March 2024;
- To consult with members on the ALiSEA action plan 2025;
- Enhance the communication and networking among all ALiSEA members; and
- Enable all ALiSEA members together to discuss their challenges.

### **1.3. Participants**

For the ALiSEA National General Assembly 2024 in Cambodia, there are 64 participants (Female 19) with diverse backgrounds such as NGOs, farmers' organizations, universities, private sector, and governmental institutions. Please see the detail participants in the attendance list in the annex.

## **2. Main Discussion Points**

### **2.1. Welcome Speech and Opening Remark**

#### **2.1.1. Welcome Speech**

Welcome speech by Mr. SOK Sotha, ALiSEA Board Member, CFAP. He mentioned that ALiSEA extends heartfelt gratitude to its Board of Management for their strong leadership, and to GRET for guiding our

journey towards a sustainable future in agroecology. He also thanked supporters such as ASSET, AFD, Belgium, EU, and FFEM for their invaluable funding, which has enabled us to focus on key areas: Networking and Communication, Knowledge Management, Capacity Building, Small Grants, and Policy Dialogue. Agroecology (AE) is vital for sustainable agriculture, food systems, the environment, and public health. This progress is only possible through collaborative efforts among diverse stakeholders, including farmers' organizations, NGOs, academia, government, and private sectors. Furthermore, he said that our work has emphasized knowledge exchange and experience sharing through thematic workshops, trainings, and various communication channels, such as Telegram, phone calls, emails, and our website. Monthly board meetings ensure progress is reviewed, and strategic actions are planned. Looking ahead, ALiSEA has identified three transformative pathways for the next 15 years: Capacity Building, Market Development, and Policy Advocacy. By 2040, we aim for 75% of farmers to be aware of agroecology, 50% to adopt its practices, significant improvements in farmers' livelihoods, widespread recognition of AE platforms, and supportive policies for AE and value chain activities. Finally, he presented that as we gather for the ALiSEA General Assembly, we envision this event as a platform for knowledge sharing, open consultation, networking, and planning for agroecology's future. May this assembly foster fruitful discussions, strengthen partnerships, and chart the path forward for ALiSEA and its members towards a brighter future.

Welcome speech by Mr. MEY Veata, Program Manager, Uni4Coop. He introduced Uni4Coop that is a network of four Brazilian universities, with two of its organizations actively operating in Cambodia. Both organizations have been part of the ALiSEA network since 2017, contributing significantly to its mission. Over the past five years, Uni4Coop has implemented two key programs in Cambodia: one focusing on food security and the other on preventing non-communicable diseases and improving mental health. Within the health program, the "Partner Project" has been a flagship initiative, offering various activities to support farmers and institutions in transitioning to agroecological farming practices. A major component of this effort has been a collaboration with DPA, the ALiSEA secretariat in Cambodia, which also receives support from GRET, the founding organization of the ALiSEA network since 2017. From 2022 to 2024, significant progress has been observed, especially in 2024, as ALiSEA expanded its activities to support members and promote collaboration. Key initiatives include training programs for new members in 2023 and 2024 to build an understanding of agroecology, policy dialogue activities, and small grant package support for members. These efforts have strengthened the network, fostered member participation, and encouraged knowledge exchange. The presence of many participants at the event reflects the

success of these initiatives. Finally, he extended his gratitude to all participants and wishes everyone well in their future endeavors.

### **2.1.2. Opening Remark**

Welcome speech and opening ceremony by Mr. KUY Sopha, Partnership Program Coordinator of DPA. He said that on behalf of DPA, the Secretariat of ALiSEA, he warmly welcomes and thanks all members and participants attending the “2024 National Conference of the Agroecology Network (ALiSEA).” This event marks a significant opportunity to showcase our collective commitment to achieving the 2040 vision of transforming agriculture through agroecology in Cambodia. Together, we reflect on past achievements, address challenges, and plan for future action under the 2025 agenda, demonstrating the strength of our collaboration among diverse sectors, including civil society, farmers, researchers, private enterprises, and government partners. Moreover, he mentioned that agroecology remains critical for safeguarding consumer health, protecting the environment, increasing farmer incomes, and building resilience to climate change. As the Secretariat, DPA has been instrumental in fostering member relationships, organizing capacity-building initiatives, managing social media channels to enhance public awareness, and administering small-scale grants to promote agroecological practices. These efforts align with our shared vision of advancing agroecological transformation for sustainable agriculture. Last, but not the least, he extended his sincere gratitude to Uni4coop for financial support, GRET for its collaboration, and all members for actively sharing their knowledge and experiences. Let us continue working together under ALiSEA’s umbrella to champion agroecological farming. Thank you for the presence, and he was honored to declare “ALiSEA National General Assembly 2024” officially open.

## **2.2. Introduce the ALiSEA Network and Welcome New Members of 2023**

### **2.2.1. Briefly introduce to the ALiSEA network**

The vision of the Agroecology Learning alliance in South East Asia (ALiSEA) network is an increased credibility and visibility of agroecological practices at family farmers, consumers and policy makers forward better landscapes, healthy and resilient food systems in the Mekong Region, and jobs creation for the rural youth to preserve the natural resources with sustainability.

The mission of ALiSEA is a network of Agroecology (AE) practitioners that actively engages its members into information/knowledge sharing and vibrant collective actions promoting an AE transition, and providing visible benefit for all participants.

The objective of ALiSEA is a network intends promoting a unifying agroecology concept for gaining a higher visibility and influence AE, generating public support, and establishing a learning process to facilitate an agroecology transition in the region.

The goal of ALiSEA is many and diverse ongoing initiatives and experiences contributing to Agroecology with a shared interest for bridging and synergizing these initiatives. ALiSEA: Open coalition of multi-stakeholders promoting a broad understanding of Agroecology (over 230 members in the 4 countries, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar). The specific goals are:

- Answer need for knowledge exchange and experiences sharing;
- Foster interactions and create safe space for stakeholders; and
- Increase visibility of agroecology of local initiatives.

Referring to ALiSEA Network Members in the Region, there are total members 238 organizations including CSOs and NGOs, Farmer organizations, Research & Academia, Private Sector, Network, etc. They run on volunteer basis to welcome interested organizations which share the same vision of promoting Agroecology. There are 77 members in Cambodia, 72 members in Laos, 53 members in Vietnam, 27 members in Myanmar, 7 in Thailand and other 11 members.

The ALiSEA Board members of ALiSEA network in Cambodia:

- Ms. SOK Chanraksme, ALiSEA National Secretariat (from DPA)
- Mr. HOU Sorith, Facilitator on Knowledge Management, (from ECOLAND)
- Mr. SOK Sotha, Facilitator on Policy Dialogue, (from CFAP)

#### **2.2.2. Debrief the process of applying to be new ALiSEA member**

There are summary main steps to become new ALiSEA member as follows:

- 1- Collective information meeting with interested organizations;
- 2- Prepare motivation letter;
- 3- National Board discussion and decision;
- 4- Online registration form;
- 5- Membership confirmed and officially announced.

#### **2.2.3. Introduce & welcome new member 2023**

There are 10 new members in 2023.



## 2.3. Update ALiSEA Achievements 2023-2024

### 2.3.1. Present progress activities implemented in 2023-2024

Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay, ALiSEA National Secretariat from DPA, presented five modalities of actions and results in 2023-2024 as follows:

**1- Networking and communication:** internal ALiSEA and members (using telegram, email, phone call, and ALiSEA member mapping in Cambodia), and external ALiSEA (journalist field day: produce articles and videos by getting the information directly from farmers: 2 times). Furthermore, there is digital outreach in action to promote agroecology: For Cambodia by developing the materials (written, Video, graphic, infographic, ...) to promote agroecology to be more inclusive. For Regional level by using Website and Youtube.

**2- Capacity building:** there are 18 workshops and webinars, 5 exchange visits and journalists' field day, and 8 training sessions.

**3- Knowledge management:** case studies are designed in the form of written, video, infographic (Source of case studies: ALiSEA collaborate with partners and members to develop the case studies; Small grant: their project implementation; ALiSEA's activities: training). For digital library as the knowledge hub, it is in process of developing.

**4- Policy engagement:** engage with government and existing platform on Policy level such as CASIC: Sub-committee promotion; CASA: support their initiative and researcher meeting; Farmer forum of NGOs Forum Cambodia; National consultation to promote agroecology in the context of the ASEAN Master Plan on "Rural Development and the ASEAN Regional Guidelines on Sustainable Agriculture".

**5- Small grant facility:** the overall objective is to strengthen ALiSEA members and its partners in support to agroecology transition in the Sub-Mekong Region. The specific objectives are: To strengthen partnerships between the ALiSEA members and encourage joint actions; To reinforce members' skills through building partnership with non-members; and to broaden the network efforts of inclusiveness and representation of the variety of stakeholders in agriculture and food systems. There are 18 Small

Grants of ALiSEA regional including Cambodia (7: 2 in 2022, 3 in 2023, and 2 in 2024), Lao PDR (5), Vietnam (5), and Thailand (1).

#### **Questions and Answers:**

- Q1: Mr. Jean-Marie Brun from ARTE-FACT company. He provided comment on presenting progress activities implemented in 2023-2024. He said that it is better to know where we are now because we have a clear vision until 2040. We should have an assessment of our implemented activities and information dashboard in order to be easy to know our achievements comparing to the target.
  - o Mr. Hou Sorith, ALiSEA Board member from ECOLAND mentioned that the afternoon, we will have a short time to make a reflection on our past activities. He suggested all participants to assess our achievements together.
- **Q2: Mr. Nimith from Mondulkiri Indigenous People's Association for Development (MIPAD). He said that the Roadmap 2022-2206 of CASIC. It will be expired in 2026. When the MAFF starts developing it again, he suggests involving ALiSEA members in the agroecology policy part.**
  - o Mr. PAT Sovann mentioned that as Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay already presented part of the policy engagement. ALiSEA is working closely with CASIC on sub-committee promotion on agroecology. Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay added that ALiSEA is now a sub-committee member of CASIC, led by the MAFF, since August 2024. Finally, Mr. SOK Sotha provided some information related to policy. ALiSEA organized several meetings to collect inputs from all relevant key stakeholders. Then, ALiSEA will organize one workshop at national level at the end of this year. Moreover, ALiSEA has contributed to a number of relevant policies by filling in questionnaires, talking to key officials and so on.

#### **2.3.2. Share progress update/results of Small Grant call proposal 2023 and the progressive of Small Grant 2024**

Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay, ALiSEA National Secretariat from DPA, presented the progress update/results of Small Grant as follows:

In 2022, there are 2 Small Grants of ALiSEA in Cambodia as follows:

- HEKS/EPER (funded by Uni4Coop): Research and demonstration of climate-resilient and agro-ecological cashew nuts production.

- ECOLAND (funded by ASSET): Multidimensional evaluation of agroecological performance in Preah Vihear initiative, Cambodia (MuLAgE).

In 2023, there are 3 Small Grants of ALiSEA in Cambodia as follows:

- Green Shoots Resources Organization (funded by ASSET): Integrated Agroecology: Study, Implementation and Practice (IASIP).
- AVSF (funded by Uni4Coop): Strengthening organic sesame supply chain in Preah Vihear province by integrating AE practices and linking the products to markets.
- VDST (funded by Uni4Coop): Empower and strengthen Youth involvement in Agroecology through Youth Agroecology Caravan (YAC24).

For 2024, it is in the process of review and evaluation:

- Conducted information session on 30 August 2024;
- Received 8 applications from members as local NGO or CSO; and
- Reviewing the applications and will announce on 30 November 2024.

#### **Questions and Answers:**

- Q1: Ms. Yun Sinang, project manager at ADDA organization, at Siem Reap province. Referring to Small Grant Facility of ALiSEA, she would like to know about what the requirements are for receiving a Small Grant if we are a local NGO or farmer organization or farmer community union? and how to apply for it?
  - o Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay answered that firstly, small grant are only open to ALiSEA members as team leaders of the grant project. If your organization is not a member of the ALiSEA network, your organization must be part of a consortium with an ALiSEA member to develop a joint proposal. The lead applicant must have at least six months of seniority as of membership.. Then, an orientation meeting is organized to explain in detail the guidelines on how to apply and how to write a proposal.
- Q2: Ms Yun Sinang from ADDA. She said that ADDA is ALiSEA member and it is working with several farmer organizations such as farmer community unions in different provinces that are not ALiSEA members. Could ADDA join proposal with them to apply for Small Grant?

- Mr. PAT Sovann Yes, of course. ADDA can do it. But he encouraged farmer community unions to register as ALiSEA member. ALiSEA has already 3 farmer community unions members in Preah Vihear, Takao, and Battambang.

### **2.3.3. Sharing regional achievements from Laos and Vietnam**

Mr. PAT Sovann, a Regional Deputy Coordinator ALiSEA from GRET, shared regional achievements from Laos and Vietnam as follows:

#### **ALiSEA Pathway in Laos and Vietnam:**

- National Foresight and Theory of Change to build common, desired vision on AE (Oct, 2021)
- Results shared at the National General Assembly to all members (Nov, 2022)

#### **Challenges:**

- Limitation of knowledge products contributed by ALiSEA members, which ALiSEA commits to engage with members and co-develop together
- Time limited for board members contributed in the network and activity implementation
- Ensure good communication flow and keep close with the members
- Engage more farmers organization and researchers and private sectors to join the network (Laos)
- Turn over the national secretariat (Laos)
- Limited of the communication and exchange between the countries (BM & member)

#### **Main achievements in Laos:**

- Inspired farmers to adapt agroecology through field showcase of best practices, Flagship field visit in Xiengkhouang Province. (July 2024)
- Well collaborated with ALiSEA members and ECHO Asia to introduce and promote best practice of local seeds saving (September)

#### **ALiSEA Pathway in Laos:**

- Support Young Farmers. Increase Knowledge from national & international exchanges.
- Limited technical capacity of FOs, technicians on AE, SF and increasing trend of AE/SF products due to health and safety concerns
- Poor management of agricultural chemical use

### **Main achievements in Vietnam:**

- Established the Zalo Group ALiSEA Vietnam (online)
  - o Operational Duration: June 2023 to November 2024 (16 months)
  - o Members: 89 accounts representing 54 organizations
  - o Interaction Statistics:
    - 2,653 messages
    - 207 images
    - 282 links to articles and events
    - 140 files

### **ALiSEA Pathway in Vietnam:**

- o Lack of collaboration between Stakeholders
- o Consumer demand for healthy food
- o Government Policy Support to Agroecology

## **2.4. Sharing the Initiative and Action Plan to Promote Agroecology**

### **2.4.1. Present Draft ALiSEA Action Plan 2025**

Mr. PAT Sovann, a Regional Deputy Coordinator ALiSEA from GRET, presented four components in a draft ALiSEA action plan 2025 as follows:

- **Component 1:** Capacitation of stakeholders
  - o **Outcome:** ALiSEA network enhances the capacity of members to sustain, perform and participate actively in the scaling up of agroecology.
  - o **Approach:** A).Create AE basic training service for members: Map members area of expertise & existing materials to encourage learning between members, and Produce materials (tool package) on the basics of agroecology for new members; B).Global Training Program: Training sessions (technical and soft skills), thematic webinars, field visits of outstanding farms and initiatives; C).Mechanism for scaling up and replicate AE knowledge: Training fund to support ALiSEA members training (co-funding), Promote and foster farmers knowledge and exchanges, and Collaboration with universities to host young students.
- **Component 2:** Consumer Communication through media influencers
  - o **Outcome:** Promote AE to public and enhance professionals and citizens' journalists increase the media coverage on agroecology and food issues.

- **Approach:** A).Increase visibility of agroecology benefits for citizens: set up consumer awareness campaign in 3 countries through social media (Raising awareness to citizens); B).Journalist Engagement Strategy: Enhance knowledge and skills of journalists on technical practices and concepts of agroecology (field visits and competition event), Foster connections between journalists and agroecology actors, and Monitoring the media content related to agroecology produced by national journalists and disseminate them on ALiSEA channels.
- **Component 3: Youth engagement in agroecology**
  - **Outcome:** Young farmer involve in implementing agroecology and apply and share their knowledge in the region
  - **Approach:** A).Situation Assessment (training and networking needs), Review existing initiatives and Learning events (ALiSEA members and key organizations); B).Training and Coaching Program: Youth Master Training Program Agroecology, entrepreneurship, market, and Youth develop and implement action plan with coaching support; C).Networking and Collaboration: Assess feasibility and relevancy to establish/strengthen national youth network, and Strengthen linkages with Asian Organic Youth Network.
- **Component 4: Policy dialogue for uptake of agroecology**
  - **Outcome:** ALiSEA network is recognized as a key player in promoting AE transition in Mekong Region & influencing policy towards an environment conducive to AE implementation.
  - **Approach:** A).Training and Partnership Strategy Development (Training for ALiSEA members on advocacy and policy dialogue strategy, and Develop Common Partnership Strategy with AsiaDHRRA & AFA (complementary collaboration from national and ASEAN levels)); and B).Policy Engagement Strategy and Evidence Creation (Contribute to existing policy platforms to bring up ALiSEA members concerns & key messages (LICA, Lao AE SSWG, CASIC etc), Develop ALiSEA position papers on messages about barriers to AE transition, success initiatives to be scaling up (Building upon members resources and information, and Co-creating knowledge to

produce policy brief and case studies), Cross-sectors actors collaboration : showcase inspiring AE regulatory framework from ASEAN countries and other regions, co-develop policy papers).

### **Questions and Answers:**

- Q1: Mr. Savoeun from AVSF :we are currently preparing the ALiSEA action plan for 2025 and will discuss and consult it with ALiSEA members. He believes it would be better to first ask ALiSEA members about the activities they are already engaged in, and then use that information to prepare the action plan. This way, we can clearly identify which activities are being carried out by specific members. He thinks this is a good approach.
  - Mr. PAT Sovann stated that this is a draft of the ALiSEA action plan for 2025. Each ALiSEA member can add or adjust it during today's discussion session. The draft was prepared based on the theory of change and project strategies.
- Q2: Mr. Rotana from CIRD. I noticed media outreach in the action plan. He believes that ALiSEA should discuss this with the Users Protection Association to collaborate and develop a unified strategy to achieve this activity.
  - Mr. PAT Sovann thanked him for his idea and added that the Users Protection Association is part of this activity to raise awareness about agroecology.

### **2.4.2. Group discussion with members to define the collaboration and co-activity development**

Participants were divided into 4 groups. Participants use sticky note to write the answer and stick on the flipchart. One comment/answer is for one sticky note. Each group spent 15 minutes at each discussion station and rotated through 4 key topics. Then, the representative of each group made a restitution.

- Topic 1: Capacity building to ALiSEA members, facilitated by Mr. Hou Sorith, an ALiSEA Board Member, (ECOLAND);
- Topic 2: Communication and media outreach, facilitated by Mr. Aing Poro, a consultant of APP project;
- Topic 3: Youth support on agroecology, facilitated by Ms. Sok Chanraksmey, an ALiSEA National Secretariat (DPA); and
- Topic 4: Policy action, facilitated by Mr. Sok Sotha, an ALiSEA Board Member, (CFAP).

Each facilitator explained participants in details of topic. Participants reviewed and discussed on all activities of each topic for 2025 based on the following questions:

- Which activities are you interested to co-organize? contribute (budget, human resources, experts, ...)
- What are your feedbacks on the proposed action plan? (topics, date, ...)
- What are your suggestions? (general suggestion around the topic)

Below is the summary of World Café discussion:

### Topic 1: Capacity Building

| Approaches               | Activities for 2025       | Participants | Month   | Co-organize                                           | Feedback                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Creation of Training Set | Create Co-team            | Members      | Apr-May | AGRISUD, CamboDHRR A, SSLA (EATII).                   |                                                                                                                                                        |
|                          | Training need assessment  | BM, Members  | Jan-Feb | AGRISUD, ECOLAND, COFAP, BUAC, CFAP, BS, TRUAC.       | Create experts/trainers list. Training                                                                                                                 |
|                          | Develop AE training tools | BM, Members  | Feb-Mar | AGRISUD, AVSF, TRUAC, VSG, BUAC, ECOLAND, SSLA (BED). | ADDA, DCA has AE manual                                                                                                                                |
|                          | Training program design   | BM           | Feb-Mar | AGRISUD, AVSF, COFAP, WeFarm, BS.                     | 3-year/annual training plan. ToT on AE. ADDA. Encourage the Self-study program such as video on website which is easier for farmers or others to learn |

|                          |                                   |              |     |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                          |                                   |              |     |                                                                                                         | by themselves.                                                                                          |
| Global Training Program  | Agroecology training              | Members      | May | ADDA, AGRISUD, MIPAD, IDE, KOC (EAC), ECOLAND, WeFarm, FLO, FCFD, BS, Terra Renaissance, SSLA (LAPNIR). | Territory approach + Management advising. AE Concepts. IPM by I.D.E.                                    |
|                          | Soft skill training               | Members      | Jun | ADDA, BS, CFAP, SSLA+BED (BAS), FAEC, KOC (EAC), TRUAC, SSLA (LAPNIR)                                   | Digital skills for farmers. Smart Agro.                                                                 |
|                          | National exchange visit           | Members      | Oct | ADDA, AGRISUD, COFAP, AVSF, CFAP, TRUAC, Swisscontact, FCFD.                                            | To have a report sharing for the national exchange visit, so the other could learn from the activities. |
|                          | Regional exchange visit           | BM           | Aug | ADDA, Terra Renaissance, CFAP, TRUAC, Swisscontact, DCA, FCFD.                                          |                                                                                                         |
|                          | Online thematic webinar           | Members + ET | Aug | KOC (EAC).                                                                                              |                                                                                                         |
| Mechanism for Scaling Up | Create FO knowledge working group | FO, members  | Aug | CFAP, HEKS, BUAC, RUA, BS, TRUAC.                                                                       |                                                                                                         |

|  |                                 |             |      |                                                               |  |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  | Facilitate FO sharing knowledge | FO, members | Sept | Swisscontact, BUAC, HUSK, Tramkok Community Union, RUA, SSLA. |  |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--|

### **Suggestions for Topic 1:**

- Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) are required for this area.

### **Topic 2: Communication and Media Outreach**

| <b>Approaches</b>       | <b>Activities for 2025</b>              | <b>Participants</b> | <b>Month</b> | <b>Co-organize</b>                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Feedback</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| External Media Outreach | Develop digital tools consumer campaign | BM, members         | Nov-Dec      | Banteay Srey (prepare budget for regional farmers in Siem Reap & Battambang), VSG, RUA-AERD, COFA, CFAP, AVSF, AFD, ADDA, SSLA (budget&HR), CTOD, ANKO, BUAC, MIPAD, FAEC, AGRISUD, CamboDHRRA, TRUAC. | Need to clarify how consumer-oriented communication is linked to the ability to identify/differentiate AE product on the market. Should include farmers' agro-products promotion. Should develop for producer campaign. Should create App for members to sell AE products (it is easy for buyers). IDE. |
|                         | Social media engagement, with general   | BM                  | Jul-Dec      | ADDA, HEKS, Swisscontact, CamboDHRRA, CFAP, SSLA (budge&HR),                                                                                                                                           | VSG and ANKO propose to post in ALiSEA page. Consolidate or link all Apps of                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|                                 |                                            |             |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 | public and students - Monthly Quiz         |             |          | TRUAC, BUAC, DCA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | all members. in ALiSEA page.                                                                                               |
| Journalists Engagement Strategy | Create com-materials                       | BM/Members  | Jan-Apr  | AGRISUD, AVSF, HUSK, SSLA (budget&HR).                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ALiSEA should consider to make partnership on this activity with BBC media action (they cover working on climate as well). |
|                                 | Support and guide AE to journalists        | BM          | Jan-Dec  | AGRISUD, AVSF, TRUAC, Swisscontact.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                            |
|                                 | Develop brief booklet AE (Technical Group) | BM+ Members | Aug-Sept | AGRISUD, AVSF, TRUAC, ECOLAND, MIPAD, SSLA (budget&HR).                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                            |
|                                 | Journalist field visit                     | Journalist  | Jun      | AFD (budget supports field visit), Bayon (Siem Reap), Smart.Agro (BTB&BMC), FCFD (host for field visit-PVG), ADDA (Siem Reap & Oddor Meanchey), CFAP, BUAC, AVSF, TerraRenaissance (welcome journalists to visit its site), AGRISUD, COFAP, TRUAC. |                                                                                                                            |

|  |                              |    |         |             |  |
|--|------------------------------|----|---------|-------------|--|
|  | Monitor journalist articles  | BM | Jul-Aug |             |  |
|  | Translate videos (Sub-title) | BM | Jul     | ADDA, TRUAC |  |

### **Suggestions for Topic 2:**

- Promote agroecology (AE) and sustainable products to strengthen market connections.
- Include a farmers' talk show featuring discussions with other sectors related to AE.
- Collaborate with consumers to build stronger connections.
- Form a technical group to develop tools for AE practices.
- Provide social and behavior change communication training for practitioners.
- Conduct interviews and talk shows with journalists to raise awareness about AE.
- Showcase successful AE cases through articles, videos, or TV programs.

### **Topic 3: Youth Support on AE Collaboration**

| <b>Approaches</b> | <b>Activities for 2025</b>                                     | <b>Participants</b> | <b>Month</b> | <b>Co-organize</b>                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Feedback</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Needs Assessment  | Youth AE mapping (members working on youth and farmers needed) | FO, members         | Jun-Aug      | RUA-AERD, FLO, AFD, ECOLAND, VSG, BS(working with youth on knowledge assessment), CTOD, AVSF, Swisscontact, MIPAO (2 groups), COFAP, Bayon (BED), BUAC, PMUAC, FCFD, FAEC, SSLA | ECOLAND (Have human resource (HR) to involve, past experiences (AE mapping, experiences on training and knowledge sharing), TRUAC (create 4 youth groups in 2025), AFD (Have plan to make youth map and how to make it). |

|                       |                                                       |             |     |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       |                                                       |             |     | (Project: Enhancing Agroecology Transition Need Assessment [Budget & HR]), TRUAC. | Some members Have HR but no budget like VSG, FLO, BS (Should include gender as well because the needs of men and women are different), BUAC (plan to involve youth), MIPAD (register AE model youth in Ratanakiri and Mondulakiri), FLO (have youth group and need budget for preparing youth map), CamboDHRRA (plan in 2015), CTOD (improve capacity AYRG through online and face-to-face), Produce video on AE (have skills to do it and train but no budget). |
| Training & Mentorship | Organize knowledge sharing & learning online webinars | FO, members | Oct | FLO, ANKO, CTOD, COFAP, VSG, SSLA (Project: Youth                                 | Have strategy for youth mainstreaming in AC or FO structure, Through online                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|  |  |  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--|--|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |  | <p>Agroecology Caravan [A4SEA] with activity: Youth Farmer Forum [Budget &amp; Staff]), SSLA (Project: Youth Agroecology Caravan [YAC] with activity: Study Tours for Youth Farmers), BUAC, TRUAC, AFD, BED (Develop E-learning resources for youth [Budget &amp; Staff]), BS, FAEC, AVSF, SmartAgro, AGRISUD (HR), Swisscontact, Terra Renaissance (Project on youth caring center for agroecology in Battambang [starting from 2025]).</p> | <p>and face-to-face, CamboDHRRA (have plan in 2025), Should have study visit in country and outside country, Encourage youth to involve activities in AC and training on AE, Train youth on AE (some members like VSG, FLO have HR but no budget), Should include class training and field visit, Encourage youth and women to practice AE in community through online and face-to-face, Junior farmers program, Select specific topic and practice it successfully, Share knowledge directly, Share video through telegram group</p> |
|--|--|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|  |  |  |  |  |                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |  |  | of youth,<br>Should find out<br>AE internship<br>support for<br>fresh graduate,<br>AE training by<br>using digital,<br>Mipad (support<br>indigenous<br>people on AE). |
|--|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### Suggestions for Topic 3:

- Organize study tours on agroecology for youth, both locally and internationally.
- Conduct workshops, reflection sessions, and quarterly and annual forums for youth groups.
- Provide incentive awards for outstanding youth (IP Youth) which has the best results in their implement activities.
- Host agroecology competition programs.
- Utilize soft power through platforms like YouTube, Facebook, and TikTok.
- Promote projects and campaigns to encourage youth to engage in agroecology within their communities.
- Introduce school garden programs into schools and universities.
- Create the Internship program which ALiSEA or members can collaborate with partners to support students and connect them with enterprises. So that, students could
- Integrate agroecology into secondary and high school curriculums.

### Topic 4: Policy and Public Dialogue

| Approaches                                    | Activities for 2025                                                     | Participants | Month   | Co-organize                                                                              | Feedback                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Training and Partnership Strategy Development | Develop collaboration with AFA & Asiadhrra to promote AE at ASEAN level | BM           | Jan-May | CamboDHRR A (HR), DCA (budget&HR), AGRISUD (HR), COFAP, HEKS, WeFarm (Battambang), BUAC, | Should be integrate gender.<br>FLO: have HR to involve.<br>AFD. |

|                                                                    |                                                     |             |         |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                    |                                                     |             |         | Tramkok Community Union,                                                                              |                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                    | Training on Policy Engagement                       | BM          | Aug     | PMUAC, FCFD, ADDA, AVSF, ARTE-FACT, CamboDHRR A (budget&HR), FAEC.                                    | FLO: will join the training. MIPAD: will join the discussion.                                                         |
| Policy Engagement Strategy and Evidence Creation for Policy-makers | <b>Regional Level</b>                               |             |         |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                    | Information session on ASEAN guideline (online)     | Members     | Feb     | CamboDHRR A (HR), AGRISUD (HR), SSLA (budget&HR), Swisscontact.                                       |                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                    | Regional workshop on ASEAN guideline implementation | BM          | Mar     | ALiSEA, Swisscontact, ADDA. CamboDHRR A.                                                              |                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                    | <b>National Level</b>                               |             |         |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                    | National policy workshop                            | BM, members | Apr     | CamboDHRR A (HR&Input), AGRISUD, HUSK (HR&Input), SSLA (budget), ARTE-FACT, Bayon (BED), COFAP, ADDA. | BS (join the discussion), MIPAD (join the discussion), FLO (have staff to join), Swisscontact, KOC (EAC can join it). |
|                                                                    | Create field evidence                               | BM, members | May-Jul | DCA (document), AGRISUD, KOC (EAC can join it),                                                       | IDE, ADDA, Swisscontact.                                                                                              |

|  |                         |             |         |                                                                                                                                        |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  |                         |             |         | Terra Renaissance (share good practice), ECOLAND, FLO, Bayon (BED), HEKS, COFAP, Tramkok Community Union, BUAC, BS, AVSF, PMUAC, SSLA. |  |
|  | Produce Position Papers | BM, members | May-Jul | Tramkok Community Union (plan to produce 4 videos), AGRISUD, MIPAD (strategy plan of ALiSEA for 5 years). ADDA.                        |  |

#### **Suggestions for Topic 4:**

- Farmer Organizations (FO): Engage farmer organizations and cooperatives in all stages of policy development.
- LHCO: Organize a national forum, dialogue, or workshop on Agroecology (AE) policy involving government officials and NGOs.
- Policy Development Process: Obtain draft versions of policies as early as possible to facilitate consultations among ALiSEA members.
- Commodity Organizations: Collaborate with groups like the Cashew Association, CRF, and Cassava Association to provide input on sub-sector strategies.
- Policy Agenda Awareness: Understand the policy agenda, including which policies, regulations, or strategies are under development and the appropriate time to provide meaningful input.

- Validation Procedures: Clarify the internal process within ALiSEA for validating policy recommendations before presenting them to decision-makers.
- CTOD: Proposed joining the discussions.
- VSG: Suggested participating in the information session on ASEAN initiatives.
- ANKO: Expressed interest in joining the AE program due to limited internal capacity.

## **2.5. Results of Regional General Assembly ALiSEA Governance and Internal Structuration**

Mr. PAT Sovann, a Regional Deputy Coordinator ALiSEA from GRET, presented results of Regional General Assembly ALiSEA Governance and Internal Structuration as follows:

### **2.5.1. Share results of regional GA (march 2024) and discuss next steps**

Referring to the Regional General Assembly on March 2024, members voted on:

1. New membership processes.
2. Establishing a National Board Member (volunteer basic) and a National Executive Team.
3. Election procedures for National Board Members (4-year renewable mandate).
4. Regional governance structure for 2026-2027, including GRET's transition.
5. Authorization for GRET and current leadership to implement these changes.

For voting results of the question 2 and 3, "Establishing a National Board Member (volunteer basic) and a National Executive Team" and "Election procedures for National Board Members (4-year renewable mandate)" received majority approval.

### **2.5.2. Present and discuss the new agreed structure: executive team and board member committee (ToR and mandate)**

#### **General overview of National Board Members:**

- Total number of people = 3 per country
- Process of selection = Elected by members with a majority of votes in each country
- Composition of Boards = strives for a balance between stakeholders to represent diversity of members: FO, CSO, INGO, Research centers
- Involvement = Voluntary basis

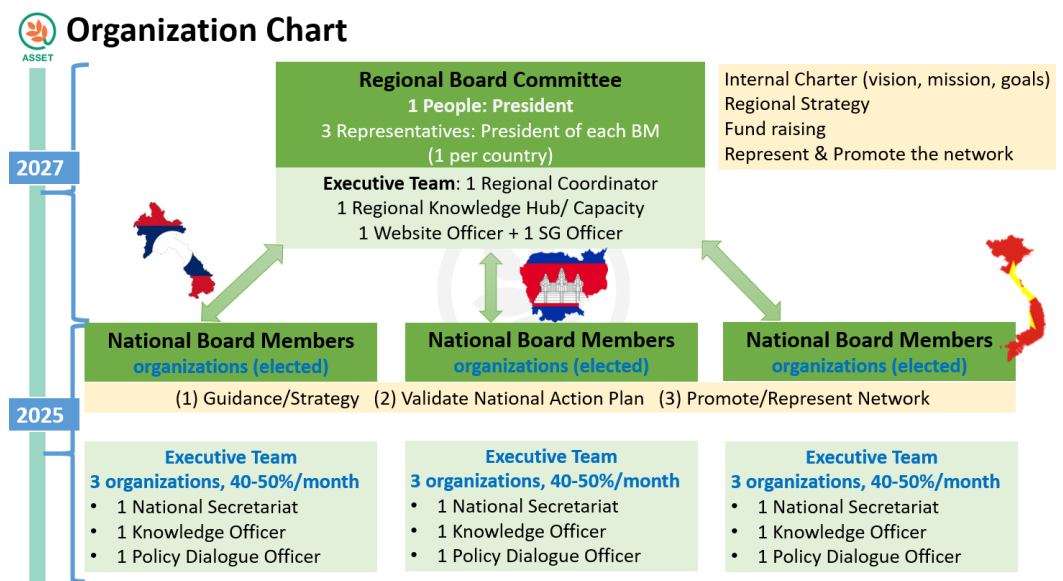
- Duration = 4 years mandate (2025 to 2028)

#### External role and involvement of National Board Members:

- Represent and promote the ALiSEA Network in various meetings/conference-role of ambassadors of ALiSEA in external events (national, regional and international); and
- Sharing the vision, mission, and objectives of the ALiSEA to all the relevant stakeholders.

#### Internal role and involvement of National Board Members:

- Provide strategy advice to ALiSEA network (strategic directions, priority areas, possible synergies, dissemination strategies, partnership opportunities);
- Involve in major events/workshop to promote agroecology scaling up;
- Involve in Executive Team recruitment in case of change;
- Attend meeting at least twice a year (national GA, steering meeting); and
- Validate the 4 years action plan for the country.



### 2.5.3. Discuss and decide on the election process and timeline

#### Selection Criteria:

- Only members organization can apply
- Should be senior staff or experienced agroecology staff who can provide ideas for the Network, can commit their organisation to actions, can represent their organisation and the ALiSEA network
- Can an organization apply for national Board Member and national Executive team?

#### Information Requirement:

- Organization level: Organization name, Country, Current agroecology-related projects by your organization, and Confirmation of approval by Director.
- Individual level: Name, Position, Brief summary of your work experience (4 lines, 1 paragraph), Explain how you think you can contribute to support ALiSEA to be an active network and achieve our collective agroecology strategic goals?
- Then, please send all nominations to the ALiSEA, closing on Friday, 28th February 2025. You can send application to [lathsakit.laos@gret.org](mailto:lathsakit.laos@gret.org).

#### **Election Process:**

- Election will be held online from Mid-March 2025 - open during 1 week;
- Elected by members with a majority of votes in each country;
- 1 vote is equal to 1 organization; and
- Brief consortium agreement signed between BM organization and GRET. If the BM resigns before the end of his/her mandate, the organization can appoint a new person. If not, ALiSEA will organize a new election.

#### **Way Forward for National Level:**

- Open National Board Member application (1 December 2024);
- Close National Board Member application (28 February 2025);
- Organize online election of National Board Member (Mid-March 2025): 1 week;
- Set up Executive Team (April 2025)-2 positions available: Knowledge and Policy; and
- National General Assembly (October 2025).

#### **Way Forward for Regional Level:**

- Assessment of other existing networks (January to March 2025);
- Deputy Regional Coordinator (January 2025);
- Knowledge Manager (to be recruited in July 2025);
- Executive Director (to be identified end of 2026, call for interest end 2026); and
- Regional General Assembly (2026).

#### **Questions and Answers:**

- Q1: Mr. Jean-Marie Brun, from ARTE-FACT Company,: Can each ALiSEA member apply for both the National Board Member and National Executive Team positions? Is it possible to be selected for both roles?

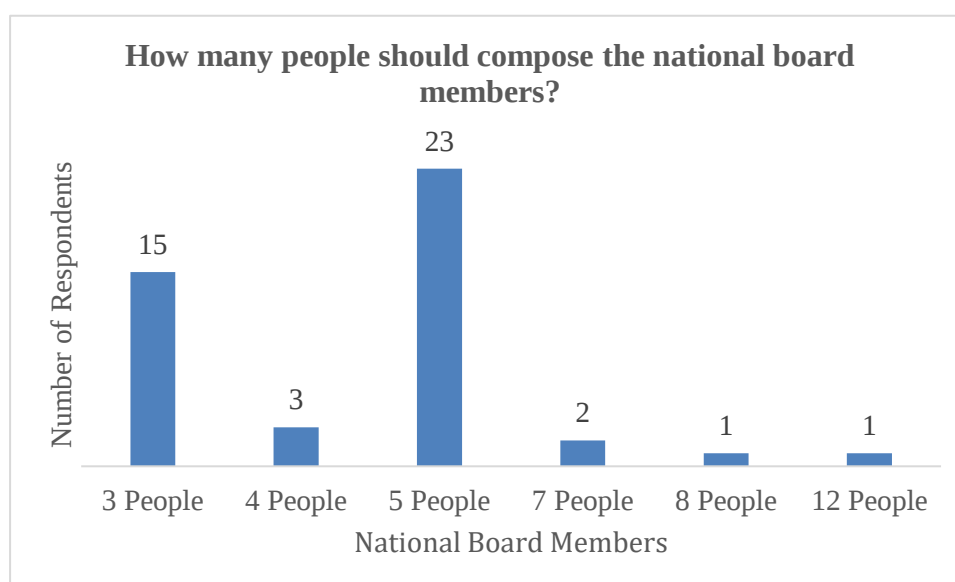
- Mr. PAT Sovann explained that National Board members will be recruited first, followed by the recruitment of the National Executive Team. Whether one ALiSEA member can serve in both roles will be discussed and decided next time.
- Q2: Mr. Jean-Marie Brun, from ARTE-FACT Company: Currently, ALiSEA is not a legal entity. Each ALiSEA member signs on behalf of their own institution, as their institution is a legal entity. In the future, should ALiSEA become a legal entity? Are there any teams studying the options for ALiSEA based on the experiences of other regions?
  - Mr. PAT Sovann explained that discussions on this issue has been initiated with the 3 national Board Members (Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam) and at the Regional General Assembly (March 2024), but no decision has been made yet. ALiSEA is operating like a learning loop, consulting members and progressing step by step as regards the governance mechanism. In 2025, the activities are planned to explore and assess the governance and structure of existing networks implemented in the regions or other countries. The matter will be discussed further during the next Regional General Assemblies in 2026 and 2028. This will provide an opportunity to reflect on the process of becoming a legal entity. A team, supported by a Swiss-funded project, is currently working on this initiative.
- Q3: Ms. Ros Chhorvivone, Social Support Organization expressed concerns about the sustainability of ALiSEA. She highlighted that while the executive team receives a salary, the board members work on a voluntary basis without compensation. As a result, they struggle to dedicate sufficient time to fundraising for ALiSEA, as they are also occupied with their core responsibilities.
  - Mr. PAT Sovann agreed with her concerns and he added decisions at the regional level are not made independently. Instead, decisions are made collectively through the Regional General Assembly of members, where all relevant information is gathered and considered. Mr. SOK Sotha also agreed with her concerns too.
- Q4: Mr. Sopheak, from AFD, commented that ALiSEA should not become a legal entity, as its members are already legal entities. He emphasized that he does not want ALiSEA to be under the control of any one party. Instead, ALiSEA should focus on empowering its members.

- Q5: Mr. Nimith from MIPAD provided comments, suggesting that no single institution should hold both a National Board member position and a National Executive Team position. He also proposed that the National Board members should represent a mix of institutions, such as the private sector, NGOs, farmer organizations, etc.

## 2.6. Results of Online Survey

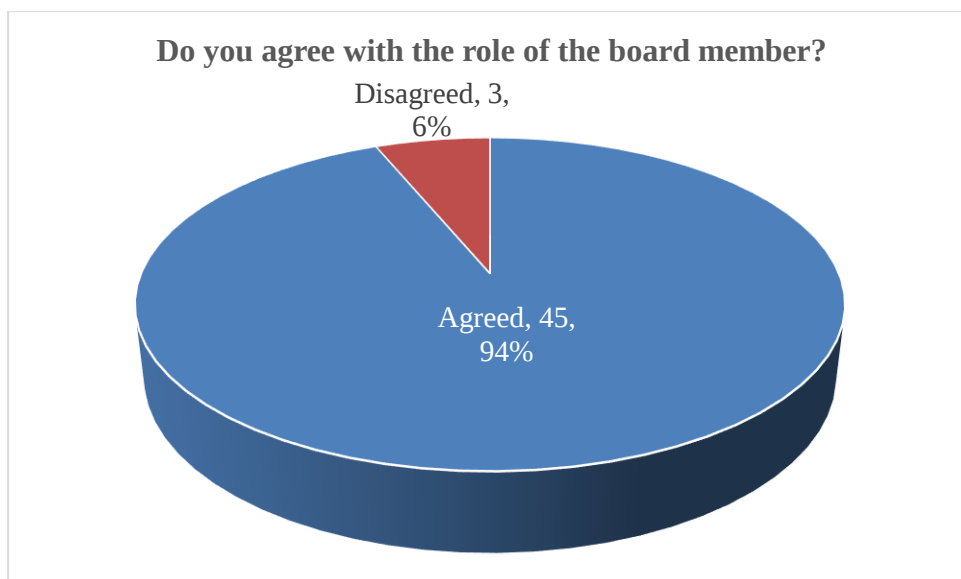
### Q1: How many people should compose the national board members?

According to the online survey during the ALiSEA National General Assembly 2024, there are 45 respondents for the question related to the number of the national board members. The mean, mode, and median of the national board members are 5 people. The minimum national board members are 3 people and the maximum national board members are 12 people.



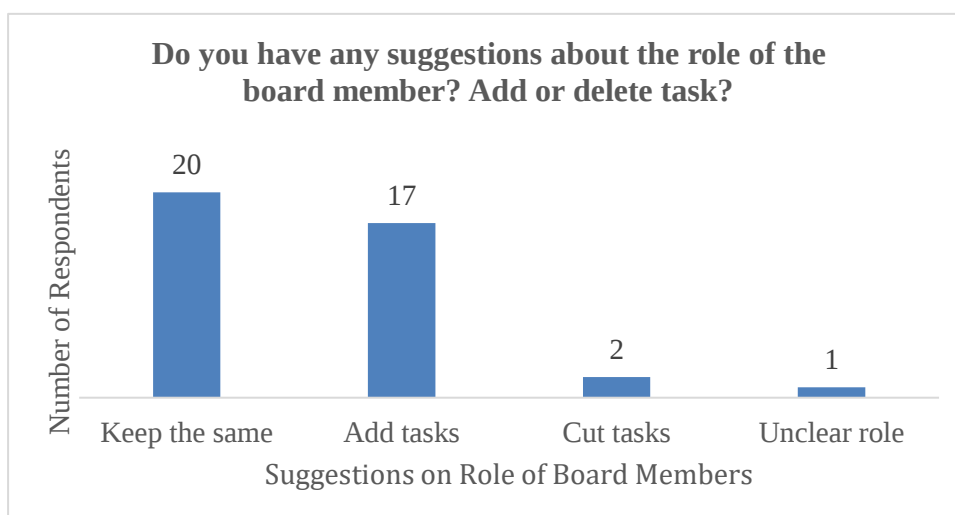
### Q2: Do you agree with the role of the board member?

Among 48 respondents, 45 respondents or 94% agreed with the role of the board member. Only 3 respondents or 6% disagreed with the role of the board member.



**Q3: Do you have any suggestions about the role of the board member?  
Add or delete task?**

Among 40 respondents, 20 respondents or 50% would like to keep the same role of the board member. 17 respondents or 43% would like to add tasks such as fundraising and donor engagement, coordination and decision-making, etc. 2 respondents or 5% would like to cut off tasks and 1 respondent or 2% said that “It is unclear whether the decision-making rights and benefits should be given to the board of directors”.



**Q4: Can an organization apply for national board member and national executive team?**

Among 48 respondents, 14 respondents or 29% answered yes, an organization can apply for national board member and national executive team. But 34 respondents or 71% didn't agree with an

organization applying for national board member and national executive team.



**Q5: Do you have any feedback and suggestions on the Governance and Internal Structure?**

Among 21 respondents, their answers are classified into 4 categories as follows:

- Incentives and Allowances for Board Members: There are 7 respondents.
  - Board members should receive additional incentive.
  - Have incentives for board members and internal structure.
  - Have incentives for Board members and their mission.
  - Should get allowance based on % of their Timesheet with ALISEA (20-30% working day).
  - Should have allowance for Board members from 20%-40%.
  - Board members should have a monthly salary for better job.
  - For the Board of Directors, a salary must be prepared every month at a certain level for effective work.
- Governance and Structure: There are 6 respondents.
  - Fundraising should be the responsibility of any member of the board of directors, and he or she may receive any portion of the budget.
  - Must be a national board member to be on the National Executive.
  - Need to have enough policies (personnel, financial ,...).
  - Separating between the management of government and executive.

- Share information, plan, progress, and annual updated role.
- ALiSEA should follow what already have and in the future can discuss about any change.
- Network and Strategic Alignment: There are 4 respondents.
  - Should align themselves with others platforms in AE.
  - Should take the main role for sustainability.
  - The ALiSEA network should not become a specific institution but should be a network led by a network or have elected leaders by mandate like ASEAN to ensure good influence, democracy, and collective solidarity.
  - Work more on implementation and marketing.
- Feedback, Inclusivity, and Collaboration: There are 4 respondents.
  - Encourage youth involvement in Board membership and at least having one female.
  - Honesty and cooperation, partnership.
  - I appreciate the quick reply of Ms. Chanraksmey and other secretariat staff when we have inquiries, as a positive feedback.
  - Please share existing structure and then I can provide a comment or input.

## **2.7. ALiSEA Communication Strategy, Template, ALiSEA Logo and Tools**

Mr. HOU Sorith, an ALiSEA Board Member from ECOLAND, presented the typology of knowledge projects and the case study template, which includes the following sections: Section 1 (General Information), Section 2 (Case Categorization), Section 3 (Case Description), Section 4 (Lessons Learned and Results), and Section 5 (Recommendations). He also introduced the Knowledge Hub Classification Index, updates on the website (currently under development), the homepage and Knowledge Hub features, and the new ALiSEA logo. Below are the different designs of the new ALiSEA logo created for various purposes.



### Questions and Answers:

- Q1: Mr. Jean-Marie Brun, from ARTE-FACT Company, raised a question: Is it possible to include the ALiSEA website link and the new ALiSEA logo on the websites and Gmail accounts of each ALiSEA member (on a voluntary basis)? He believes that doing so could help increase the number of visitors to the ALiSEA website.
  - o Mr. HOU Sorith, an ALiSEA Board Member from ECOLAND, agreed with the suggestion and will inform ALiSEA members on how to use it in the future.
- Q2: Ms. Sokrim, from the IDE organization in Siem Reap, asked how to use the updated website of ALiSEA and whether general farmers can access it freely?
  - o Mr. Guillaume explained that the updated website of ALiSEA is a Web-App, which can be installed and used like an app. While it is not a traditional app, it functions in a similar way. Mr. HOU Sorith added that farmers enjoy watching videos, which is why the Web-App includes links to videos. He also noted that these videos were created by the farmers themselves.

## 2.8. Sharing Challenges and Lessons Learned from the Past Year (Small Grant and Case Study)

Mr. CHAN Tolla, HEKS/ALiSEA small grantee, made a presentation on challenges and lessons learned on testing agroecological techniques that is summarized as follows:

**Introduction:** In 2023–2024, HEKS/EPER Cambodia collaborated with Agri-Smart Innovation Co., Ltd. through the Green Cashew Project to conduct a case study on testing agroecological techniques. The trial aimed to improve soil fertility, enhance pest control, and reduce flower dropping in cashew farming. Trial

farmers were selected in July 2023, and training sessions were conducted to demonstrate these agroecological techniques.

**Agroecological Techniques and Practices:** In August 2023, trial farms were established, and various agroecological techniques were applied. These included poles digging for soil fertility, using Bodoux Mix (10% and 50%) for pest control, and applying seaweed to prevent flower dropping. Demonstrations by Agri-Smart Innovation Co., Ltd. ensured that farmers understood the methods and practices required for successful implementation.

**Results of Field Monitoring and ROI Analysis:** Field monitoring revealed that treated plots showed slight improvements in soil fertility and pest control compared to untreated plots. Regular farm inspections and timely spraying were emphasized for better results. The application of seaweed during October enhanced flowering, fruiting, and net income. Return on investment analysis indicated that, while treated plots had higher costs, they were more profitable due to better yields. Seaweed treatment was also found to be more cost-efficient and healthier for farmers compared to chemical treatments.

**Challenges and Limitations:** Several challenges were noted, including the heaviness of the pole digger machine for soil improvement, limited effectiveness of Bodoux Mix 50% during the flower stage, and the need for precise timing when using seaweed to reduce flower drops. Ensuring timely applications before and after rain or dewfall was critical to the success of these techniques. Despite these limitations, the study highlighted the potential of agroecological practices in improving yields, profitability, and farmer health.

#### **Questions and Answers:**

- Q1: A participant asked regarding cashew cultivation. She mentioned that it takes at least 3-5 years to yield cashews. She asked whether it is appropriate to compare the use of non-chemical and chemical fertilizers on cashew trees after just one year.
  - o Mr. CHAN Tolla responded that yes, it is suitable to make the comparison. He added that he based his observation on soil fertility and noted that using the agroecological method yielded better results compared to the conventional approach.
- Q2: Mr. Chheng Ou from DCA asked whether the cost and benefit analysis include labor costs?
  - o Mr. CHAN Tolla stated that labor costs had already been included in the cost-benefit analysis.
- Q3: A participant: the age of the cashew trees for making comparisons and the use of chemical fertilizers prior to the testing?

- Mr. CHAN Tolla stated that, regarding the age of the cashew trees, he calculated their age based on the average age. He did not consider the fertilizer usage prior to the testing.
- Q4: Mr. Chheng Ou from DCA After testing, should we recommend this method to farmers?
  - Mr. CHAN Tolla stated that we have to recommend this method to farmers, as they can gain more benefits compared to the conventional method.
- Q5: Is there a health analysis that includes both people and animals?
  - Mr. CHAN Tolla mentioned that this study focused on two aspects: land and economic analysis.
- Q6: Mr. Jean-Marie Brun, from ARTE-FACT Company, why Bodoux mix was used to control mealy bugs, thrips, and worms. He believed that Bodoux mix is typically used to protect against fungal diseases.
  - Mr. CHAN Tolla said that some of the ingredients he used can help protect them, but they are not 100% effective.

## 2.9. Sharing Results ALiSEA Members Mapping

Mr. HOU Sorith, ALiSEA Board Member from ECOLAND, made a presentation on results ALiSEA members mapping that is summarized as follows:

**Introduction:** Cambodia is advancing agroecological (AE) transformation to create sustainable and resilient agricultural systems by reducing chemical inputs and enhancing biodiversity. ALiSEA (Agroecology Learning Alliance in Southeast Asia) plays a pivotal role in supporting AE implementation among farmers through organic fertilizers, policy advocacy, and network collaboration. The evolution of agriculture in Cambodia transitioned from Integrated Pest Management (IPM)/Farmer Field School (FFS) in 1989 to agroecology in 2018. Agroecology integrates ecological principles to optimize interactions between humans, plants, and the environment while fostering sustainability and fairness in food systems. It is highly knowledge-intensive, relying on collective farmer innovations and appealing to rural youth.

**Study Methodology and Findings:** Data for the study was collected using Kobotoolbox, interviews, and case studies. ALiSEA members include local NGOs (29%), international NGOs (24%), the private sector (15%), farmer organizations (15%), research centers/universities (13%), and public institutions (4%). Their expertise spans Integrated Pest Management, value chain development, and organic agriculture. Members expect progress in areas such as renewable agriculture, youth engagement, and conservation agriculture. Five key initiatives emerged from case studies: sustainable agricultural practices, capacity building, technological innovations, policy participation, and market-based initiatives.

**Case Studies and Agroecological Practices:** Three case studies highlighted AE practices: (1) organic fertilizers in Takeo Province reduced chemical dependency, promoted innovation, and raised awareness; (2) women's participation in the organic rice value chain in Preah Vihear strengthened internal controls and boosted production with proper incentives; and (3) technology adoption through ECOKasekor in Siem Reap provided pest management tools and technical knowledge, demonstrating the potential for nationwide expansion via ALiSEA networks. Challenges include certification costs, knowledge gaps, market instability, and limited policy support for AE.

**Conclusion and Recommendations:** ALiSEA's role is crucial in strengthening agroecology through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and scaling initiatives. Despite challenges, member commitment and innovative practices have paved the way for agroecology adoption in Cambodia. To enhance efforts, ALiSEA should focus on leveraging its network for knowledge dissemination, fostering government partnerships, and promoting collaboration among members to expand agroecological practices nationwide.

## **2.10. Showing Video of Case Study of One NGO**

Ms. Muneezey Jaffery, Operations Manager of Green Shoots Foundation, shared case study in the video about a project in Oddor Meanchey Province, Cambodia. The project focuses on agroecology and includes research on local plant species. In this province, the Green Shoots Foundation runs an Agri-Tech Center, which serves as a working farm, training space, and demonstration site. She also introduced the “Plant Planet Plate” project. It is based out of the Green Shoots Foundation AgriTech Centre, located in northwestern Oddor Meanchey Province, Cambodia. The Centre is an award-winning community learning. The project aims to understand how people forage, prepare, use, the plants around them, to highlight people's relationship to local plant species and cultural practices around them, and to celebrate and share local and traditional ecological knowledge of the vibrant communities.

## **2.11. Reward ALiSEA Membership Certificate**

Mr. Sorith, an ALiSEA Board Member representing ECOLAND, and Mr. Kuy Sophal, the Partnership Program Coordinator at DPA, provided reward ALiSEA membership certificate to ALiSEA members. The membership certificates serve as formal documentation, officially acknowledging the recipients as part of the ALiSEA network. These certificates highlight the importance of collaboration and reinforce the commitment of members to ALiSEA's shared mission.

## **2.12. Conclusion and Closing Remark**

Mr. SOK Sotha, ALiSEA Board Member representing CFAP, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all participants for their active engagement in the ALiSEA National General Assembly 2024 in Cambodia. He acknowledged the valuable contributions and dedication of everyone involved, which made the event a meaningful platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange. Mr. Sotha highlighted the key points discussed during the assembly, emphasizing the importance of collective efforts in advancing sustainable agriculture and fostering stronger networks among stakeholders.

In closing, Mr. Sotha extended his best wishes to all participants, encouraging them to continue their impactful work in their respective fields. He expressed optimism that the discussions and insights shared during the assembly would translate into actionable outcomes for the benefit of ALiSEA and the broader community. Mr. Sotha looked forward to continued collaboration and wished everyone success in their future endeavors.

## Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

| TIME                        | ACTIVITIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | SPEAKER/<br>FACILITAOR                                   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 08:00-8:30                  | Registration of the participants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay, ALiSEA National Secretariat        |
| 8:30-9:00<br>(30mn)         | <b>Introduction to Event</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome speech by Mr. SOK Sotha, ALiSEA Board Member, CFAP (10 mn)</li> <li>• Welcome speech by Mr. MEY Veata, Program Manager, Uni4Coop (10 mn)</li> <li>• Welcome speech and opening ceremony by Mr. KUY Sopha, Partnership Program Coordinator of DPA (10 mn)</li> </ul> | Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay, ALiSEA National Secretariat        |
| 9:00-9:30<br>(30mn)         | <b>Introduce the ALiSEA network and welcome new members of 2023</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefly introduce to the ALiSEA network</li> <li>• Debrief the process of applying to be new ALiSEA member</li> <li>• Introduce &amp; welcome new member 2023</li> </ul>                                                             | Mr. SOK Sotha, ALiSEA Board Member, (CFAP)               |
| 9:30-9:50<br>(20mn)         | <b>Coffee break and visit booths</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | All                                                      |
| 9:50-10:30<br>(40mn)        | <b>Update ALiSEA achievements 2023-2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present progress activities implemented in 2023-2024</li> <li>• Share progress update/results of Small Grant call proposal 2023 and the progressive of Small Grant 2024</li> <li>• Sharing regional achievements from Laos and Vietnam</li> </ul>            | Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay<br><br>Mr. PAT Sovann               |
| 10:30-12:00<br>am<br>(90mn) | <b>Sharing the initiative and action plan to promote agroecology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present Draft ALiSEA Action Plan 2025 (30mn)</li> <li>• Group discussion with members to define the collaboration and co-activity development</li> </ul>                                                                            | Mr. PAT Sovann (Regional Deputy Coordinator ALiSEA/GRET) |

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|                     | (members introduce activities that could be organized or collaborated with ALiSEA) (60mn)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                          |
| 12:00-13:30 pm      | <b>Lunch break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All participants                                         |
| 13:30-14:30         | <b>ALiSEA Governance and Internal Structuration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share results of regional GA (march 2024) and discuss next steps</li> <li>• Present and discuss the new agreed structure: executive team and board member committee (ToR and mandate)</li> <li>• Discuss and decide on the election process and timeline</li> </ul> Q&A | Mr. PAT Sovann (Regional Deputy Coordinator ALiSEA/GRET) |
| 14:30-14:50 (20mn)  | ALiSEA Communication Strategy and template (case study, communication tools) ALiSEA Logo & Tools (e.g. ALiSEA templates) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PPT presentation</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                     | Mr. HOU Sorith, ALiSEA Board Member, (ECOLAND)           |
| 14:50-15:20 (30mn)  | Sharing challenges & lessons learned from the past year from small grantees and Case study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Mr. CHAN Tolla, HEKs/ALiSEA small grantee                |
| 15:20-15:35 (15 mn) | <b>Coffee break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Everyone                                                 |
| 15:35-16:10 (35mn)  | <b>Sharing results ALiSEA members mapping</b><br>Result findings will be presented to all ALiSEA members, highlighting ALiSEA members' expertise, agroecology implementation, and priority agroecology subjects to be addressed for capacity building.                                                                                                               | Mr. HOU Sorith, ALiSEA Board Member, (ECOLAND)           |
| 16:10-17:00 (50mn)  | <b>Reward ALiSEA Membership Certificate</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Ms. SOK Chanraksmeay                                     |
| 17:00-17:15         | <b>Closing Remark</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Mr. SOK Sotha, ALiSEA Board Member, (CFAP)               |

(Note: There are booths/tables for members to display their products during the event)

## **Annex 2: List of Participants**

Link to attendance list: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i80UG4Tz88Ila4o-dTbtsznfVIWJK5o2/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i80UG4Tz88Ila4o-dTbtsznfVIWJK5o2/view?usp=drive_link)

## **Annex 3: Event Photos**

Some highlighted photos and link to all the photos link to photos:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QOKgemx9w4istS\\_tX2DI8qiBtYzwh1zi?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QOKgemx9w4istS_tX2DI8qiBtYzwh1zi?usp=drive_link)

## **Annex 4: Presentations**

Link to all documents:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ml5Q9qkDeaBBFeJWMOiatqZY3GxPaWDq?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ml5Q9qkDeaBBFeJWMOiatqZY3GxPaWDq?usp=drive_link)