The overall objective of the Agroecological and Safe food System Transitions (ASSET) programme is to make food and agricultural systems in the region more sustainable, safer and inclusive, through harnessing the potential of Agroecology to transform them. It is implemented by GRET as the general coordinator, in a strong articulation with CIRAD in charge of the scientific coordination, in partnership with a consortium of 23 International/European/National Institutions and Organizations and 2 United Nations Agencies.

ASSET will develop and promote a shared vision of Agroecology and Safe Food System Transitions through a comprehensive approach that includes research, networking, policy advocacy, capacity development, awareness raising and communication using ALiSEA network. The consortium will engage with governments, civil society, private sector and smallholder farmers to generate and transform knowledge into sustainable innovation processes and transformative policies, sensitive to youth and gender equality.

By fostering technical, organizational and institutional innovations at territorial level in flagship programs, generating robust evidence on their performances and impacts, bringing successful approaches to scale and by building upon regional reliable initiatives and institutions, ASSET will help support opening a dialogue on linking agricultural and markets transformations in policy frameworks at local, national and regional level.

1. Agroecology Learning Alliance in Southeast Asia, visit https://ali-sea.org/ for more information
**APPROACH**

With its comprehensive approach, the project will activate a variety of levers of the agroecological and safe food system transitions within three overlapping spheres of influence.

**STRUCTURE**

**COMPONENT 1: Impact-oriented stakeholder engagement into ASSET**

- **SC 1.1:** Strengthening ALiSEA through networking and sharing a common vision of the ASSET
- **SC 1.2:** Transforming ALiSEA multimedia into a knowledge hub
- **SC 1.3:** Promoting ASSET through capacity development, communication and visibility actions

**COMPONENT 2: Scaling up agroecological and safe food innovations from local to regional levels**

- **SC 2.1:** Knowledge production and support to innovations
- **SC 2.2:** Methodological framework for assessing performances and impacts of innovations and transitions
- **SC 2.3:** Evidence-based policy dialogue and advocacy

**METHODOLOGY**

The project will build a common broad-based methodological framework to:

1) co-produce with large multi-stakeholder groups shared visions and plausible nested impact pathways of the ASSET, at flagship, national and regional levels using a Theory of Change (ToC) approach;
2) assess and monitor the performances and impacts of innovations and pathways to the ASSET, and identify enabling conditions;
3) plan and adapt action research activities at Flagship territorial level through learning loops.

The formulation through participatory ToC tools of a federating strategy to reach the shared vision of the ASSET from local to regional levels will help transform the ALiSEA network into an open coalition of farmer organizations, policy makers, value chain operators, and research and development actors connected by a shared vision of ASSET pathways.

Knowledge generation from flagship to regional levels will feed into and be fostered through multi-stakeholder policy dialogue implemented from a local level through the flagship sites, national to ASEAN levels.
IMPACTS & OUTCOMES

ULTIMATE IMPACT

Increased food security and food safety for smallholder farmers, and SMEs in South East Asia

INTERMEDIATE IMPACTS

A paradigm shift for the recognition and adoption of agroecology principles and activities into policies and society feeding into safe food system transitions

Multiple diversified production and marketing models with increasingly diverse connections to export and domestic value-chains and food systems are available and coexist

OUTCOMES

- ALISEA becomes a fully autonomous member-managed network
- ALISEA becomes a key knowledge hub on the transitions
- Stakeholders use newly acquired knowledge and capacity to support the transitions
- Stakeholders scale up tested innovations and models from local to regional levels
- Policy-makers integrate knowledge to enable changes towards the transitions

Behind those impacts and outcomes, there are basically two assumptions, which ASSET’s approach is grounded on:

- **Assumption 1**: Strengthening the capacity and increasing the knowledge and ownership of targeted stakeholders enables them to shift towards the agroecological and safe food system transitions

- **Assumption 2**: Providing multi-scale evidence of the performance and multidimensional impacts of agroecological practices within safe food systems enables multiple stakeholders to support and implement the shift towards the system transitions

Photo credit: Estelle Biénabe, Mélanie Blanchard
Flagship sites are pilot administratively managed territories where efforts and resources are concentrated to support and document agroecological and safe food system transitions.

ASSET project will support innovations and knowledge production in four flagship sites, one per country.

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