Current policy initiatives for agroecology transition

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Highlight

• Cambodia’s initiatives towards agroecological transition

• CASIC (Cambodia Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium)

• CARDEC (Conservation Agriculture Research for Development Center)

• Metkasekor (Early adopters led extension model)
Cambodia’s initiatives towards the agroecological transition

Small holder rubber development project (SRDP II)

Projet d'Appui au Développement de l'Agriculture au Cambodge & PAMPA

By R4D NW uplands CE SAIN/ SIIL (ASMC & WaGN)

Cover crops & machinery CASF, (MIGIP)/SDC

Engagement of private sector

Agroecology and Safe Food Systems Transition in SEA (ASSET), WAT4CAM, CE SAIN/SIIL (ASMC2, S3), ISA, MetKasekor

RESEARCH

SERVICE PROVISION

ENGAGEMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR

POLICY DIALOGUE AND EXTENSION
Cambodia - CA/SI Institutionalization

**Institutional**

- **CASIC** - Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium. A national platform for the members to create network between public sector, private sector and other organizations aiming to improve CA practices in Cambodia.
- **NAP Secretariat/MAFF** (NAP - National Action Program to Combat Land Degradation)
- **Bos Khnor** Conservation Agriculture Service Center/DALRM/GDA – to be the Regional Center of Excellence on CA/SI
- **CE SAIN/RUA** (Center of Excellence on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Nutrition)
- **Metskasekor** – Early adopter innovative extension model

**Regulatory framework**

- **NAP (2018-2027)** – UNCCD
- **RGC’s support** - A coalition for the transformation of food system through agroecology led by France (16 Sept. 2021)
- **FAO and IFAD joint support** to this coalition (21 Sept. 2021)
- **CIRAD and Swisscontact joint support on CA/SI**
- **CASIC’s 5-Year Road Map (2022-2026)** – finalized
- **Bos Khnor’s 5-Year Road Map (2022-2026)** – final draft
- **WAT4CAM** (Water Resources Management and Agroecological Transition for Cambodia) – Implementation phase 1
- **ASSET** (Agroecology and Safe Food System Transition) project
- **RAD4CAM** (Rainfed Agriculture Technology Development Programe for Cambodia) – FS phase
About CASIC

1. Overview

Cambodia Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium (CASIC) is a national platform for the members to create networks between public sector, private sector and other organizations aiming to improve Conservation Agriculture practices in Cambodia. CASIC is NOT an implementing organization.
The vision of CASIC is to be a well-established platform with a vast network of organizations that are working on the CA issues in Cambodia, e.g., markets, research, policies, service provision etc. To achieve this, a platform that can primarily bring together all market actors involved in CA/SI to promote CA/SI practices, create demand for the required CA/SI machinery and implements, plant diversity and availability/access to seed of cover crops etc. and get private sector engagement to fulfill those demands is needed.

The mission of CASIC is to establish knowledge management of CA/SI related resources for easy access for members; create an enabling environment for the increased investment in CA/SI; promote and enhance CA practices and strengthen collaboration between stakeholders in CA/SI.

CASIC is formed to support its members and will not carry out any activities that are the function of any of the members. However, CASIC can identify keys issues that need to be addressed in CA and can mobilize its partners for fundraising and support to implementation.
3. Organizational Structure

**About CASIC**

**Decision making level**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

**Management level**
- CASIC Steering Committee

**Executive level**
- CASIC Executive Board (EB)
- CASIC Secretariat

**Subcommittees**
- Knowledge management;
- Coordination & Networking;
- Promotion;
- Research

**Technical Reference/Support Unit**
- CIRAD;
- Swisscontact;
- European CA Federation;
- US CA Association;
- CIMMYT
- FAO
- UN CSAM
- China Institute for Conservation Tillage ...

**Potential Development partners**
- AFD
- USAID
- Swiss Agency
- European Commission
- FAO
- ACIAR ...
About CASIC

4. Subcommittees

4 subcommittees have been envisaged for CASIC to work on the issues of Conservation Agriculture

Executive Board

- Knowledge Management
- Coordination and Networking
- Promotion
- Research 4Development
About CASIC

4. Subcommittees

Knowledge Management
Committee, led by Faculty of Agricultural Engineering-RUA, will be responsible for collecting and storing all information related to CA/SI and make it accessible to other organizations interested in CA/SI

Coordination and Networking
Committee, led by Swisscontact, will work towards expanding the network of the Consortium by organizing events for potential members of the Consortium

Promotion
Committee, led by Department of Extension of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries-MAFF, will work towards supporting research, training of CA practices and supporting grassroots activities in CA across Cambodia etc

Research 4Development
Committee, led by Department of Land Resource Management-GDA and co-lead by CIRAD, will work towards conducting research and testing on CA mechanization and practices to bring evidence-based and scientific studies on CA production system
The Strategic Development Plan for Bos Khnor Conservation Agriculture Research for Development Center (CARDEC 2022-2026)

Vision
The vision of CARDEC is to become a leading national and regional center in promoting agriculture modernization, agroecological transition, and food security.

Mission
The mission of CARDEC is to conduct experiment, assess and promote agroecological and sustainable intensification based production systems through the conservation of crop genetic resources, research, and building capacity of farmers, women, youth and relevant stakeholders in order to increase agricultural productivity, resilience to climate change, and livelihood of farmers and rural communities.
## Strategic objectives

**Overall Strategic Objective:**
To promote the adoption of climate-smart agroecological practices to contribute to sustainable management of agriculture land resources and to ensure food security and safety, rural economic development, environmental safeguard and livelihood of farmers.

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<tr>
<th>Strategic Objective 1:</th>
<th>Strategic Objective 2:</th>
<th>Strategic Objective 3:</th>
<th>Strategic Objective 4:</th>
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<tr>
<td>To promote R4D on agroecological practices and design climate-smart innovative agricultural production systems</td>
<td>To strengthen research on plant genetic resource conservation for agroecological land management</td>
<td>To strengthen agroecological skill development and to enhance knowledge transfer to stakeholders, especially farmers</td>
<td>To improve R4D infrastructure and capacity through national and international collaborations</td>
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Key indicators by 2026

- Land areas under CA/SI/AE adoption: 6,000 hectares
- Farmers adopting CA/SI/AE practices: 3,000 households
- Soil carbon nutrients stock (annual increase of 0.12%): 55.33 ton/hectare
- Official recognition
- CASC as a national and regional research and training center
MetKasekor is an “opening the market” early adopter led extension service model. MetKasekor focuses on opening the market for private sector investments on Sustainable Intensification via government agents and the private sector to smallholder farmers in Cambodia.
Unique features

**Public Sector**
Involved in “opening the market” for the private sector

**Private Sector**
Accompany the public sector during the sensitization of the farmers and provide the services on a commercial basis

**Early Adopters**
Agree to take the SI services and use their land to showcase the results to other farmers

**Government Extension**
Embed MetKasekor into the Government Extension System
Metkasekor steps

**Identification** of potential agriculture cooperatives, farmers and service providers

**Demand Creation** with agriculture cooperatives, service providers and smallholder farmers

Field Showcase by early adopter farmers of SI Operational Sequences

**Field Showcase**

**Commercial Demonstration**

Large scale demonstration led by private sector to showcase SI practices and technologies

**Annual Meeting** to review progress of the model (during pilot phase)

Promotional Meeting to enlarge the pool of private sector

In progress,.....
Thank you!

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