

**Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Department of Planning and Statistics**

**Report on National Seminar
on Food Security Information System
Golden Sand Hotel, Sihanouk Town,
Cambodia, 20-21 July 2006.**

1. Introduction

National Seminar on Food Security Information System in Cambodia was held by Department of Planning and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries at Golden Sand Hotel, Sihanouk Town on 20-21 July 2006 under technical and financial auspice of AFSIS Project.

2. Background

The objective of AFSIS Project is to develop and improve capacity of ASEAN member countries on food and agricultural statistics and information, which would strengthen their capabilities to provide accurate and timely information. Based on this objective, Cambodia has organized the National Seminar at Golden Sand Hotel, Sihanouk Town from 20-21 July 2006.

3. Purpose of the Seminar

The purpose of the seminar was to examine the status of the existing Food Security Information, Agricultural Statistics and especially to evaluate the outcome of the implementation of the training project on agricultural statistics which was an assistance of AFSIS Project and JICA expert, Bangkok. In addition, the seminar also studied on the possibilities to improve and strengthen the Food Security Information System for the future demand and introduce AFSIS Project to local Staff.

4. Objective of the National Seminar

The main objection of the National Seminar is,

- To explain and highlight the purpose of AFSIS Project to the local Focal Point in Cambodia on the importance of food security to Cambodia.
- To acknowledge the participation on the contribution of agricultural Statistics in Cambodia.
- To impart knowledge among local Focal Point in Cambodia on the establishment of food Network System.
- To facilitate food Security planning and Implementation through the systematic collection, analysis and dissemination of Agricultural Statistics.

5. Date of the National Seminar

The duration of the seminar was from 20-21 July 2006.

6. Venue

The seminar was held at Golden Sand Hotel, Sihanouk Town, Cambodia from 20-21 July 2006.

7. Participants

A total number of 53 participants attended the seminar, including one Focal Point, 30 persons from provinces, 7 persons from Department of Planning and Statistics, one person from Department of Agronomic and Land Improvement, one person from Council of Ministers, 8 persons for presentation; Mr. Masaaki Sasaki, Expert from Japan International Cooperation (JICA), (OAE, MOAC, Bangkok), Mr. Eiichi Miyaima, Expert from Japan International Cooperation (JICA), (EAERR, Bangkok), Mr. Ryuki Ikeda, Expert from Japan International Cooperation (JICA), (OAE, MOAC, Bangkok), and Ms. Unchana Tracho and Ms. Sutida Suanburi from Office of Agricultural Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

8. Official Opening and Closing Ceremony

- The Seminar was officially opened by His Excellency IT NODY, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF); Mr. Chek Nann, Deputy Director of Planning and Statistics (MAFF); Ms. Unchana Tracho, represented of AFSIS Project.
- The Seminar was officially closed by Mr. Chek Nann, Deputy Director of Planning and Statistics (MAFF).

9. Activities and Achievement of the Seminar

- Ms. Unchana Tracho presented the paper on objectives and Activities of AFSIS Project and its Contribution to the Regional Food Security.
- Food Security and Nutrition Information System in Cambodia was presented by Mr. Heng Vichea, Director of Food Security and Nutrition Statistics Department, Office of the Council of Ministers.
- Integrated Farmers Fields School Rice, Fish and Vegetable was presented by Ms. Mam Sitha, Training Officer (IPM) of Department of Agronomy and Land Improvement, MAFF.
- Food agricultural and Poverty reduction was presented by Mr. Keo Chetra, Deputy Director of Department of National Account, National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Planning.
- Concept of Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System was presented by Mr. Men Sothy, Vice Chief of Statistics Office, Department of Planning and Statistics and Staff of FAO-Asis Fivims Trust Fund Project.
- Definition and Data Standardization and Food Balance Sheet was presented by Mr. Chek Nann, Deputy Director Department of Planning and Statistics, MAFF and Focal Point of AFSIS Project.
- Sustainable of Information Agriculture Statistics Development was presented by Mrs. Meas Sotheavy, Chief of Statistics Office Department of Planning and Statistics (MAFF).

-Explanation on Data Collection Uploading to Database (AFSIS Website) was presented by Mr. Tuor Vannak, Vice Chief of Statistics Office Department of Planning and Statistics (MAFF).

During two days, the seminar had actively gone accordingly to the attached agenda. In the seminar, the participants had carefully discussed on every papers presented.

The main points on which the participants paid much attention are :

-The complexity and the lack of existing Food Security Information and Agricultural Statistics systems. The participants had actively discussed in order to find out the reasons and the strategies/methods to improve.

-Unperfect and the slowness in collecting data having done, because of :

+lack of human resource

+lack of means and finance

+discouragement on statistics activity since poor standard living and no intensive.

-The participants recognized the importance and necessity of agricultural statistics and Food Security Information qualified in serving for :

+Government institutions playing the role in managing and leading

+International agencies and private sectors

+Traders, producers and farmers, in determining policies especially agricultural development policies, orientating plan, preparing leading strategies for implementing and evaluating impact of the projects.

-The participants had highly valued the achievement of AFSIS project

-The participants were interested in the presentation of Mr. Chek Nann on Definition and Data Standardization and Food Balance Sheet and the presentation of Mr. Tuor Vannak on Explanation on Data Collection Uploading to Database (AFSIS and FAO Website).

10. Financial Status

A total amount of USD \$ 7,000 was received from the AFSIS Manager in July 2006. The cost for organizing the National Seminar was USD \$ 7,525.50. We request the AFSIS will provide the additional funds.

11. Benefit to the Participants

AFSIS National Seminar has benefited as follows:

-The Seminar has given all experience information about AFSIS Project.

-Participants acknowledged the importance to establish AFSIS Networking System.

-Participants have received better knowledge of maintenance of data in AFSIS Website.

12. List of Papers

- Introduction of the AFSIS Project

- Food Security and Nutrition Information System

- Integrated Farmers Fields School Rice, Fish and Vegetable

- Food agricultural and Poverty reduction

- Concept of Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System
- Definition and Data Standardization and Food Balance Sheet
- Sustainable of Information Agriculture Statistics Development
- Explanation on Data Collection Uploading to Database (AFSIS Website)

13. Acknowledgement

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia would like to thank the AFSIS Project and also the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan (MAFF) for financial and technical support and contribution to make the AFSIS National Seminar in Cambodia a success and hope to get good experience and technical in the future.

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