



# annual report 2023



Farmer and Nature Net Association (FNN)  
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[www.fnn-kh.org](http://www.fnn-kh.org)



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<b>AC</b>	Agriculture Cooperative
<b>AFA</b>	Asian Farmer Association for Sustainable Rural Development
<b>AFDI</b>	Agriculteurs français et développement international
<b>AIMS</b>	Accelerating Inclusive Markets for Smallholders
<b>Amru</b>	Amreth Rung Roeung
<b>ARDB</b>	Agricultural and Rural Development Bank
<b>AsiaDHRRA</b>	The Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia
<b>BoD</b>	Board of Directors
<b>CamboDHRRA</b>	The Cambodia Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas
<b>CB</b>	Capacity Building
<b>CCC</b>	Cooperation Committee for Cambodia
<b>CFAP</b>	Cambodian Farmers Association Federation of Agricultural Producers
<b>CPSA</b>	Cambodia Partnership for Sustainable for Agriculture
<b>CRF</b>	Cambodia Rice Federation
<b>DCA</b>	Dan Church Aid
<b>DPA</b>	Development and Partnership in Action
<b>EU / EC</b>	European Union / European Commission
<b>FAEC</b>	Facilitation Association of Economy for Cooperatives
<b>FCFD</b>	Federation of Cambodian Farmers for Development
<b>FNN</b>	Farmer and Nature Net Association
<b>FWN</b>	Farmer and Water Net
<b>GAFSP</b>	Global Agriculture and Food Security Program
<b>HEKS</b>	Hilfswerk der Evangelischen Kirche in der Schweiz
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agriculture Development
<b>ILC</b>	International Land Coalition
<b>KOC</b>	Khmer Organic Cooperative
<b>LEAP</b>	Livelihood Enhancement and Association for Poor
<b>LVC</b>	La Via Campesina
<b>LWD</b>	Life With Dignity
<b>MRLG</b>	Mekong Region Land Governance
<b>NES</b>	National Engagement Strategy
<b>NGO Forum</b>	Non-Governmental Organization Forum on Cambodia
<b>Oxfam</b>	the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
<b>SK</b>	Star Kampuchea
<b>SM</b>	Social Mobilizer
<b>SNEC</b>	Supreme National Economic Council
<b>UNDROP</b>	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas

# words from

## the Chairperson of the BOD and Executive Director of Farmer and Nature Net Association



A blue ink handwritten signature of Mr. Seu Rany, consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

**Mr. Seu Rany**  
Chairperson of Board of Director  
Farmer and Nature Net Association

In 2023 the Board of Director organized two meetings with the Executive Director and Management Team members to assist and strategically guide the organization in achieving its vision, mission, and goals and organizational and program objectives as being set up in its Strategic Plan 2021-2025. The Board of Director received regular progress monitoring reports. We really appreciate the great efforts of FNN staff in contributing to sustainable agriculture development and management and poverty reduction. The Board of Directors supports new initiatives proposed by FNN staff to respond to social, economic and political changes in Cambodia. The Board of Directors also appreciates the implementation of all projects of FNN to continue and extend its successes in agroecology and community livelihood improvement. FNN has adapted empowerment and right based approaches to make its projects more effective and sustainable and in conformance with democratic approaches, addressing climate change and livelihood issues has more become a focus of FNN.



A blue ink handwritten signature of Mr. Pan Sopheap, written in a cursive style.

**Mr. Pan Sopheap**  
Executive Director  
Farmer and Nature Net Association

The Board of Directors is delighted about the steady progress of FNN during the past years of its operation and thanks FNN staff for their hard work and strong commitment. Our special thank is also given to donors and the other partners for their kind supports and cooperation. We are looking forward to continue our strategic support to FNN for the sake of sustainable Agriculture Cooperatives based agroecology business management and poverty alleviation in Cambodia. FNN's agroecology awareness strategies and agriculture business management has helped to change mindset of farmers and consumers to view agriculture not only as source of food but also as sources providing health being and poverty reduction to people. As long as people see green and sustainable food system as partner, it will be carried out and used with respect in a sustainable manner.

# about farmer and nature net association

# our profile

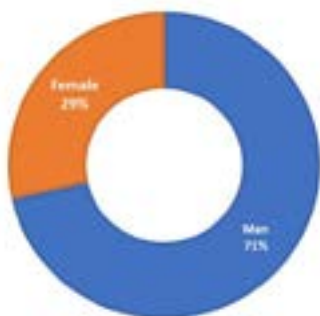
## Our philosophy

A successful agriculture cooperative starts

## vision

Want to see Cambodian farmers have a prosperous life, live with dignity and have the ownership to decide on their own destiny.

### management staff



2 women | 4 men

### project staff



13 women | 32 men

### admin & support staff



3 women | 3 men

**Total staff: 54 people, 31% women / 69% men**

## About FNN

Farmers and Nature Net Association (FNN) is a local, non-profit and non-political farmer organization, which was established in 2003 and officially registered at the Ministry of Interior on March 10th, 2006 to address the problem of food insecurity in Cambodia. FNN represents a network of village-based farmer organizations that acts as an umbrella to represent and serve the interests of self-help associations, agricultural cooperatives, and provides technical assistances on capacity building. The majority members

of FNN are subsistence farmers, who are poor living in the rural communities. FNN consists of 100 ACs with 53,856 members of which 30,159 (56%) are women 16 target provinces, 58 districts, 218 communes, 816 villages. At the national level, FNN is led by Board of Directors (BoD), which composes of 18 elected farmer representatives from 15 target provinces plus 4 representatives of national expertise networks include savings and credit network, youth, women and organic rice producer network. At regional level, FNN

is a member of Asian Farmer Association for Sustainable Development (AFA) since 2008. From 2012-2014, FNN performed as a chairpersonship of AFA and sit as a non-voting steering committee of Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) from Asia Civil Society Representative. In 2022, One FNN-BOD's member was elected to be representative of FNN-member ACs in the Cambodia Rice Federation.

## The way we work

Cambodian farmers still have limited awareness about agroecology. Their agricultural resources (land, biodiversity, climate, ...) continue to be threatened by commercial agriculture enterprises and unsustainable farming by local community members. With continuing population growth (food demand) and use of chemical agriculture inputs, the pressure on environment is increasing further. Smallholder farmers do not have enough investment capital for agrobusiness development, and community members do not possess appropriate knowledge and skills on farming, especially on climate resilient agricultural techniques or agroecology, or off-farming businesses for income generation. Access to markets, finance, and public agriculture policies is still limited. These problems have consolidated into a poverty cycle. Local governments have limited capacities for addressing these issues and require continued support from experienced NGOs like Farmer and Nature Net Association.

from the individual and can only be achieved with involvement



## missions

- Organize / mobilize and join forces (promote a rural society with solidarity and good cooperation) to protect the rights and put common interests (farmers) as a priority.
- Enhance and promote organic agriculture and agro-ecology.
- Ensure cooperation between communities and relevant organizations both inside the country and overseas.
- Facilitate and build partnerships to access to financial and technical services, agriculture inputs and marketing, etc.
- Develop capacity of the network's members, especially agricultural cooperative leaders, production teams, processing groups, women, youth groups, etc. to become good representatives and leaders.



## core values

- Solidarity and good cooperation
- Keep the common interests of farmers as a priority
- Adhere to organic farming and safety
- Transparency, accountability and equity.

### Approaches

**Justice:** FNN recognizes the inherent dignity of every person and supports vulnerable communities in their efforts to achieve justice, human rights and a sustainable future. FNN facilitates the empowerment of those with whom it works to achieve this end.

**Equity:** FNN promotes the fair, even and sustainable access to and distribution of resources and the equitable delivery of social service. FNN believes in the even and balanced treatment of all men and women.

**People's Participation:** FNN is characterized by inclusive and participatory processes regardless of ethnicity, religion and gender. FNN facilitates participation and promotes ownership of focus groups by applying the empowerment approach, which gives people choices or options in their lives and the competence and confidence to seek and obtain their universal rights and achieve a life with dignity.

**Transparency and Accountability:** FNN maximizes its capabilities through responsible stewardship of all entrusted resources. This is complemented by the highest standards, flexibility and pragmatism in program implementation – balancing accountability towards the affected population and the expectations of partners and back donors. FNN is committed to transparency of its motives and aims, as well as its financial transactions.

### Decision making

Regular staff meetings, management team meetings, executive committee meetings and Board meetings ensure that all of FNN's work are managed in a highly participatory way. We conduct annual staff reflection meetings, weekly management team meetings, and quarterly board meetings. All staff-related issues such as policy changes are proposed by staff or management team members and decided upon by the Board of Directors. FNN regularly reports project and organizational development progress to the members of the Board.

### Target groups and stakeholders

A major part of FNN's work is aimed at poor farmers in rural communities, particularly women and youth. Our staff always work in close cooperation with local authorities, national and sub-national as well as relevant technical institutions such as Department of Agriculture Cooperative Development, Department of Agro-Industry, Department of Agriculture Expansion. FNN has facilitated key actors like CBOs and farmers in getting actively involved in the implementation of projects.

# our program

## thematic areas

- ☀️ capacity building
- ☀️ family economic development
- ☀️ networking/agriculture policy advocacy
- ☀️ women and youth
- ☀️ publications

## strategic goals

1. The capacity of farmers and leaders related to production has increased with quality and safety
2. Self-help associations and ACs have sufficient capacity to effectively provide services to members
3. Market access for family farmers
4. Access to investment capital/financial resources
5. Access to supportive enabling environment policies
6. FNN is highly capable and professional institution to provide services to members effectively





# institutional achievements

In strengthening the has focused on five main and evaluation, financial development, and sustainability strategy, relevance of projects, livelihood improvement,



## management system

2023 was the third year of FNN's Five-Year Strategic Plan 2021-2025. Many projects (existing and new projects) have been implemented a long with the strategic goals and vision. For administrative procedures, mechanisms to monitor the use of all supplies and vehicles were in place and effectively used; the equipment inventory was regularly updated; policies regarding procurement, leave/holiday, travel expenses, disciplinary actions and complaint mechanism were regularly reviewed, strengthened and strictly applied.

Monitoring and internal evaluation for each project have been frequently conducted through field visits, management team meetings and staff reflection meetings. The results of the final project evaluation of the projects were used to guide the management and improvement of the organization, and to design future projects. Progress reports were prepared and submitted to donors and other related institutions regularly.

For financial management, the records of expenditure were kept for all projects and the expenses of all individual line items were regularly reviewed with the aim of remaining within 15% of the agreed budget. Financial reports and statements were completed and delivered on time to relevant staff, the management team, the BoD, and donors accordingly. project financial audits for 2023 were conducted in early 2024.



## strategic planning

FNN is governed by a Board of Directors which is composed of elected AC leaders. In 2021, they appreciated in developing and reviewing the five-year strategic plan 2021-2025. They also provided strategic directives and supervised the organization towards achieving its mission according to the organizational bylaw, policy, five-year Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and annual Operational Program Plan 2023. The Board met three times in 2023.

All FNN projects were designed to respond to the strategic goals which are clearly identified in the Strategic Plan and Annual Program Plan. Funding opportunities are systematically screened against the organization's mission and strategic plan, and only pursued if they were in line. Stakeholders are systematically consulted during the design and implementation of the projects. In 2023, FNN also conducted annual review of project implementation in conformance with the strategic plan 2021-2025. Several meetings were conducted with the management team, field staff members and technical advisor to review the strategies and indicators/targets in order to respond to the progress of FNN and socio-economic contexts in Cambodia as well as in the world.

organization to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, impact and sustainability of the program, FNN aspects: **1) Management systems**, which refer to organizational structure, administration procedures, monitoring management and reporting, **2) Human resources**, referring to staff numbers, experience, skills, human resources volunteers, **3) Financial resources**, i.e. total financial resources, diversity of funding sources, fundraising capacity, and organizational profile, **4) Strategic planning**, which refers to governance, mission statement, strategic plan, and accountability to stakeholders, and **5) Delivery**, including scale of on-going projects, relevance of projects to delivery of project outputs, geographical reach and collaboration.

## human resources

In 2023, FNN employed 54 fulltime skilled staff with a combined working experience, who contributed to meeting our organization’s mission. Three new staff were selected to fulfill FNN’s needs or to replace leaving colleagues. Staff capacity building was conducted throughout the year, especially through in-house training. Staff performance appraisals were also conducted in late December 2023 by their direct and indirect supervisors.

### project staff 2023



**45 project staff | 9 other staff**



## delivery

The scale of on-going projects in terms of budgets delivered was ranging from **USD 2,396.40** to **USD 171,065.80** with a total organizational expenditure of USD 648,098.71 (87.74%) against the total budget of **USD 738,654.83**. Objectives, outcomes, outputs, and activities for each project were clearly defined and progress regularly monitored. The delivery of project activities and outputs was mostly successful, although the delivery of activities had to be rescheduled sometimes compared to the initial work-plans.

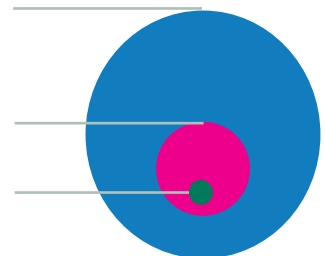
To ensure effective and efficient project activity delivery in the target provinces, FNN set up field offices directed by a Project Officer who coordinates several CBOs such as ACs, SHGs, and PGs, and actively participates in AC networks/Forums. In addition, FNN has collaborated with several local and international NGOs/Private Sectors including DCA, AFA, AsiaDHRRA, OXFAM, GIZ, KOC, AMRU Rice, CamboDHRRA and with line-Ministries (i.e. MAFF, MoI, MoC, MoRD) in order to energize our efforts for the successful implementation of our projects. Donors are EU, AFA, IFAD, LVC and others. Government included Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Rural Development, and Ministry of Commer.

### budget 2023

**total budget | USD 738,654.83**

**largest project | USD 171,065.80**

**smallest project | USD 2396.40**





# program achievement

## capacity building

In 2023, FNN implemented its capacity building program for enhancing the performance of the project staff members, management team, BOD's members, and AC/PG executives and members to ensure sustainable FNN and FO development.

There were 1,012 farmers of FNN member ACs in Kampong Chhnange, Persat, Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Takeo, Kampot, and Kampong Speu provinces, of which 638 are women trained in improved techniques. Of them 173 members trained in organic and GAP, 520 members for vegetable production and chicken raising, and 62 for vegetable and fruit harvest and post-harvest management, business literacy, and fish sauce processing).



FNN's Financial Team coached Krang Leav Samaki AC committee how to close entry and prepare financial report.

The program provided different type of capacity development such as training courses, coaching, counselling, exposé visit, case studies, and so on. They are:



AC executives were trained in Organic rice production for strengthening Internal Control System (ICS) in Kampong Speu province.

148 smallholder agriculture-entrepreneurs/ Producer Group members of which 67 are women were trained in institutional development. They learned about financial management (including business planning, budgeting, record-keeping), and documentation. Financial management skills is very importance for smallholder farmers to foresee the budget, investment, and profits. This also pave the way to farmers to control their business operation and finance management well. Lack of skills of budgeting, record keeping, and financial analysis, farmers challenges loss of business. Therefore, financial management promoted smallholder farmers to invest on their business in order to avoid loss. On the contrary, their business can be maintained and growth.

# family economic development

## Organic rice and rice seed production

### Organic rice production

The project provided trainings on agroecology and on how to control organic paddy rice production to 2,206 AC members (1,056 women) including executives. The project facilitated nine ACs with 2,206 members and Amru Rice Company to sign contract farming with the volume of 4,848 matrix ton of organic rice. Actually, they sold 3,687 matrix ton of rice (76% compared to the contract) to AMRU

Rice company in light of low rice yield. See table 1. In 2023, the rice price increased up to 1,550 Riel per kilogram. In general, AC members gained more income than last year due to increasing of unit price (1,356 Riels in 2022 up to 1,562 Riel in 2023 in average). This encourages farmers to get involve in agriculture sector, especially in rice production.



Contract Farming Ceremony between ACs and Amru Rice under the present of the Director of Kampong Chhnang PDAFF



Action of collecting organic rice from and verifying rice quality of AC members and transporting to Amru Rice.

Table 1: Volume of rice sold to Amru Rice by ACs

No.	Name of AC	Province	Volume of rice (Ton)	Price/Kg (in Riel)	Amount (in USD)
1	Svay Chorcheap Meanchey	Kg. Speu	1,402.62	1,425	499,682
2	O Saray	Takeo	2.88	1,420	1,021
3	Podos	Takeo	425.00	1,350	143,438
4	Kasekor Samaki Roeung Roeun	Takeo	21.03	1,350	108,346
5	Kraing Leav Samaki	Kg. Chhnang	27.00	1,550	10,463
6	Cheab Santepheap Satryklahan	Kg. Chhnang	25.00	1,550	9,688
7	KbalTeuk Chheang	Kg. Chhnang	47.40	1,550	18,368
8	Kum Kraing Lavea	Kg. Chhnang	80.00	1,550	534,750
9	Tlokvean Meanchey	Kg. Chhnang	55.60	1,550	21,545
	<b>Total</b>		<b>3,687</b>	<b>1,477</b>	<b>1,347,300</b>

## Rice seed production



Camseed Pechchavar AC conducted annual meeting and set rice seed production target for 2024.

Besides, Camseed Pechchavar AC was established in December 15, 2020, located in Tang Thnem Village, Pechchavar Commune, Baribo District, Kampong Chhnang Province. Camseed AC produced six kinds of rice seed such as Sen Kra Ob, Phkar Kravan, OM, Sra Nge, Phkar Rumdoul, and Raing Chey. The rice seed production yielded 356 matrix ton of rice seed and sold them to twelve provinces (including provincial agriculture depots/wholesellers with US\$184,000 of income. In 2024, Comseed AC will expand its production of rice seed and sell to all provinces in the Kingdom of Cambodia.



Process of purification of rice seed at the rice field

Volume of rice seed produced by varieties (in matrix ton)



storage of the purified seed



Transportation of rice seed to buyers

If you wish to purchase any varieties of rice seed, please contact AC committee as follows:

1. Mr. Bun Sothun (ប៊ុន សុធីន៍) 092 859 489 / 088 440 7979
2. Mr. Bearn Ratha (បៀន រដ្ឋា) 012 348 055 / 097 825 15 10
3. Mr. Tho Thorng (ថូ ថង) 017 791 146

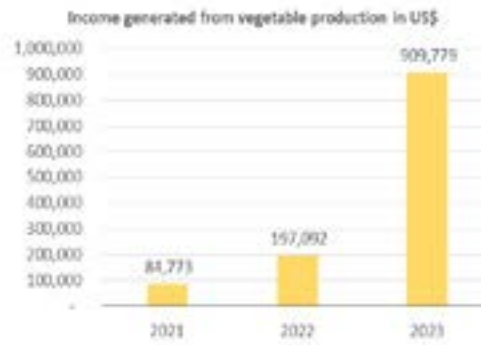
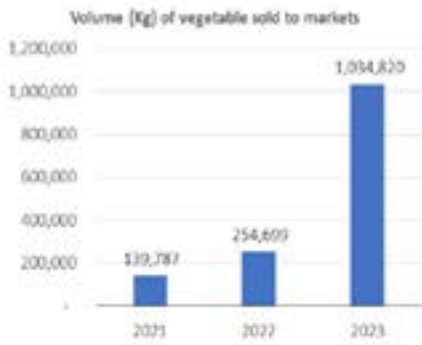
# Vegetable and Chicken Production

## Vegetable production

FNN motivated AC members to be membership of the Vegetable Producer Group. In 2023, the VPG members increased up to 602 member (27% increased) compared to last year, of which 396 (66%) are female members. They were trained at least on three different topics such as vegetable production, post-harvest management, business planning. About 87% of the trained PG members applied their

skills. 35 net houses have been facilitated to plant vegetable a year round. Off them 165 AC members got organic vegetable production certificates from Control Union. There were 12 ACs signed contract farming with FNN-shop, primary schools, KOC, and other shops in Phnom Penh and provinces. All organic and safe vegetable were transported through the cool truck and taxi. In general, they sold

1,034,820 Kgs of vegetable to villagers, local markets, middlemen, and companies with and got income of US\$ 999,779 in 2023. So, each VPG member generated US\$ 1,511 of income.



Ms. Ki Sopheap is a vegetable PG member in Siem Reap province



AC shop in Veal Veng district, Pursat province



ACs in Kg. Thom province signed contract farming with KO

Transportation of vegetable by Taxi



In other way, KO used cool truck to transport vegetable





Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports has introduced a declaration on food supply for school feeding program. The declaration focuses on community agricultural product that are safe for consumers (pupils). The supply has to be made through public bidding. FNN introduced the vegetable procer groups of ACs to the declaration and facilitated them to join the bidding. As a result, there were six ACs won the bidding of

vegetable supply to 31 public primary schools for school feeding program (three ACs in Siem Reap, two ACs in Kg. Chhnang, and one AC in Kg. Thom provinces). They supplied 93,747 Kgs of safe vegetable over the period of school year 2022-2023 with returning US\$67,186 of income. FNN will closely work with World Food Program (WFP) which funds the school feeding program to consider contract farming with ACs,

because ACs produced safe vegetable ensuring health of pupils. FNN will also facilitate ACs to increase numbers of VPG members to produce vegetable in order to meet the market demand including quantity and quality. This is another opportunity for ACs to link their product to markets.

Province	Mane of ACs	# of primary schools	Volume (in Kg)	Price/ Kg	Total amount
Kg. Thom	Rong Roeung Mean chhey	5	5,224	3,000	3,918
Siem Reap	Rachana Sathri Rong Roeung	12	56,000	2,500	35,000
	Rachana Sathri Dembei Akphiwa	6	16,560	3,800	15,732
	Tany Mean chhey Reaksmei Sri Ang	3	2,940	3,000	2,205
Kg. Chhnang	Kraing Leave Samaki	1	1,739	3,000	1,304
	Cheap SantePheap Sathri Khlahan	4	11,284	3,200	9,027
<b>Toatl</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>93,747</b>	<b>3,083</b>	<b>67,186</b>



Agriculture Cooperatives supplied food (vegetable) to public primary schools.



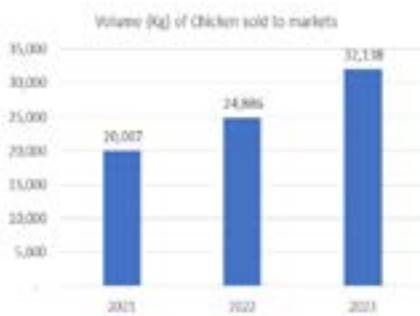
A group of cook of schools is cooking food for school feeding program

## Poultry production

FNN, in 2023, facilitated 36 chicken PGs with 521 members of which 343 (65.83%) are women in the five target provinces (Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, Battambang, Siem Reap, and Kampong Thom provinces) to raise native chicken. They operated backyard chicken farming. However,

they raised 50 to 100 chicken in average. They challenged some issues such as climate change, chicken diseases, marketing, price fluctuation. In addition to these challenges, FNN coached them on use of chicken vaccination, how to develop chicken farming business plan including

budgeting and record-keeping, and signed contract farming to supply chicken meat to shops and companies. As a result, they could sell in total of 32,138 Kgs of live chicken and fresh chicken meat to markets and made total income of US\$ 123,805.



Mr. Seng Saroeun is Khachas AC Leader. He is also a chicken PG member in Sotnikum district, Siem Reap province. He mixed chicken feed himself in order to reduce input costs.



Mr. Soi Channat is a vice leader of Cheap Santepheap Satrey Khlahan AC in Tekphos district, Kampong Chhnang province. He raised hundred of chicken and also a farmers trainers on chicken production.



Mr. Him Dorn, Leader Rachna Satrey Doeum Bey Akphivat AC, also work as a community product collector. He did the best to collect product (vegetable and live chicken) from PG members to markets in Srey Snam district, Siem Reap province.

## Cricket Farming

FNN, with DCA funding support, continued to facilitate cricket producer group with 47 members of which 19 are women at Sambour Chamroen Phal AC in Traing districts, Takeo province. FNN organized reflection workshops for the producers to discuss strengths, weakness

and raised strategies to improve cricket farming, after which they operated 739 concrete/wooden flats with a lot of cricket condos. As a result, they produced 114 matrix tons of crickets per year and sold to middlemen with the price of US\$3 per Kg in average with total amount of US\$342,000

of income. This business is useful for farmers, especially women who work at home with taking care of her households/families. Each cricket keeper generated US\$7,277 of income per year in average. This is another source of household income besides the paddy rice production.



*DCA visited cricket farm in Traing district, Takeo province*



*Mr. Watanak is a cricket producer and collector*



## Cashew Nut Farming

In 2023, FNN with EU funds through DCA facilitated cashew producer group of Phnom Santuk AC in Kra Koh commune, Santuk district, Kampong Thom province. The group compose of 103 families of which 72 are women. They have farmed 150 hectares of cashew crop. Each family has about 1.46 hectares of cashew crop in average. The producer group sold 60 matrix tons of tried cashew nuts to the middleman with the price of US\$ 1.4 per Kg.



## Fish Sauce Processing

Due to Community Fishery (CF) characteristic and our need assessment result, we found that CFs produced raw fish meat balls and through some parts of fish (waste) away. FNN, with EU fund support, discussed the use of waste processing with CF executives. They decided to form fish sauce production group per each of three CFs with 15 members of which eight are women, after which FNN provided one 2-day training to 15 fish sauce PG members (8 females) in Phnom Penh and two 1-day trainings in Battambang province for 14 CF members (14 women) in 2023. They were formed in to three fish sauce production groups. They are Sdeykroum Rohatsoung CF at Ekphnom district in Battambang province, Ou Taprok CF and Kampong Prak CF at Krakor district, Pursat province. They produced 2014 liters of fish sauce and sold 545 liters to local markets with returning US\$ 2,446 of income.



*Training on fish sauce processing in Battambang province*



*Training and practice of fish sauce processing in Battambang province*

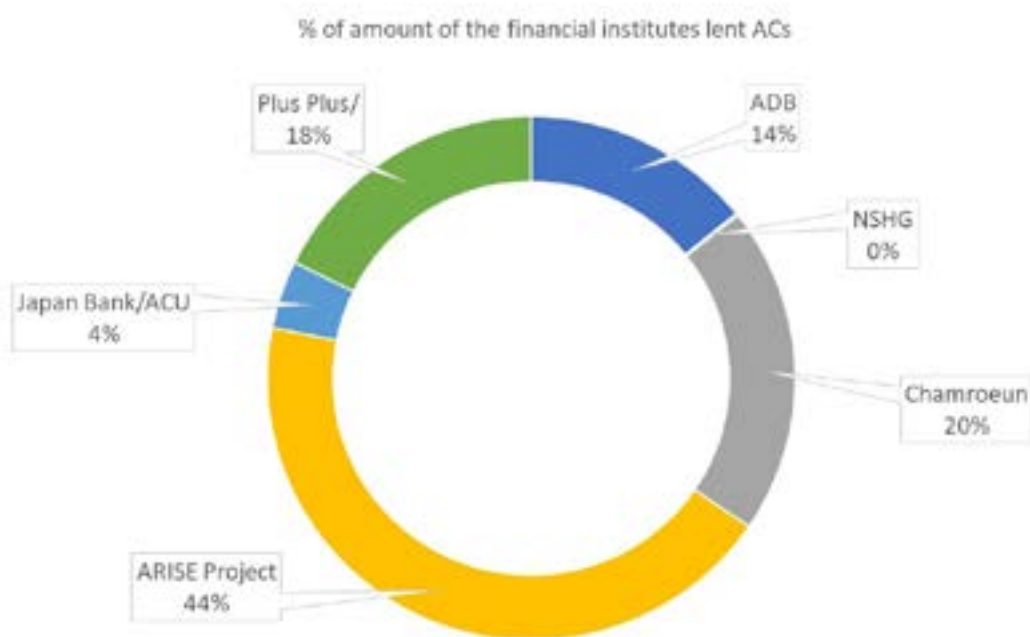


*Fish sauce product displayed at the province agriculture fair in Battambang province*

## Supporting Access to Capital for Needed Inputs

Number of businesses of ACs ranged from one to three. The ACs used their own capital, but not enough that need extra support for running the businesses. This forced the FNN to help them to access to capital. Up to Dec 2023, the FNN facilitated FNN member ACs in the target provinces to access to capital for needed inputs. As a result, there were only 13 ACs get loans from the finance institutes such as ADB, National Self-Help Groups (NSHGs), Chamroeun Bank, Japan Bank, Agriculture Cooperative Union (ACU), and ARISE

Revolving Fund project. Other ACs could not access to capital, because they were under qualification of finance institutes policies such as business plan, financial reports, collateral. The ACs, which recieved loans and revolving funds, increase revenues. This has also improved their financial management (e.g. budgeting, record keeping, financial analysis, business growth) and made strong commitment to invest in their business.



*Loans and revolving funds for business development*



*Planning for business growth*



# networking and advocacy

FNN is a representative of Cambodia farmers that is working to build capacity of farmers and linking them to the world development in term of agriculture practices. In this regards, FNN is a member of national and international network mechanisms such as CCC, NGO Forum, CamboDHRRA, AFA, ILC, LVC, AisaDHRRA.

## At national Networking

In 2023, FNN facilitated its farmers to participated in the following events:

FNN, in cooperation with CamboDHRRA, organized AC forum at Cambodiana Hotel, Phnom Penh. The forum brought together key stakeholders 190 participants who are government representatives, Agriculture cooperative business leaders, youth leaders, development partners, civil society, NGOs, and the private sector. The objective of

the forum was to share experiences and discuss ways to improve AC management for inclusive business partnership. They learned and share best practices and experiences on agriculture business development and challenges from different organizations (private and public sectors, and NGOs), institional management, access to loans

for business development, legal framework, and policy. The forum also focuses much on promoting youth participation in leadership and management of agriculture cooperative business. They also raised their concerns related to agriculture input resolution. As a result, this issue is still under process of consideration.

FNN facilitated 26 Agriculture Cooperative executives of which 10 are women to participate in Sustainable Agricultural Summit 2023 on economic growth in agriculture at Sokha Hotel, Siem Reap provice. The summit was organized by AMRU Rice. They discussed the agricultural development for ensuring low costs of and sustainable agriculture production and agro-ecology as well.

The participants had opportunity to Identify challenges and seek solutions on how best to support their emerging farmers to use their land productively, growing a shared equitable economy, creating employment and securing food for the nation, to engage on issues pertaining to the development of agriculture in Cambodia, to create deepened dialogue, shared learning, strategic partnership and economic opportunities in partnership with the private sector as the keys to strengthening the agricultural communities, to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas, and create a blue print for shared solutions to improve the agricultural sector, and to support the development of strategic and partnerships between the public and private to bolster radical improvement and transformation of the agricultural sector that will address the most pressing issues facing every facet of agriculture in the upcoming years and beyond.



AC business Forum at Cambodiana Hotel, Phnom Penh



Cambodia Sustainable Agriculture Summit 2023, in Siem Reap province

## FNN network meetings

Farmer and Nature Net Association (FNN) has 96 FNN member ACs and is working as network. FNN formed district, provincial, and national FNN networks. Meanwhile, FNN facilitated AC network meetings at provincial and national levels. The meetings explained to ACs about FNN's vision, mission,

goals, value, project and operational plan 2023, and cooperation with public and private sectors. The meetings also share knowledge, experiences, market information for linking ACs' product to buyers and agriculture input producers to ACs, and updating AC profile. This improved FNN's performance

and management practices as well as communication. Meanwhile, FNN with its member ACs participated in farmer forum organized by NGO-Forum. We discussed the topic on promoting the implementation of social protection and safety at the workplace in Banana and Rubber ago-industrial sectors.



The executives, who came from the seven Agriculture Cooperatives (AC), took part the provincial AC net work meetings in Siem Reap province and discussed the AC business management issues, financial management, and agriculture value chain system in Siem Reap province. Private agriculture input suppliers were also invited to the such meetings.

## At international Networking

### AFA Network

As an AFA member partner, FNN is on board with Asia Farmers Association for Sustainable Development (AFA) and took part in the workshop which was hold in Kangkok, Thailand. There were participants from different countries. They are Cambodia, Lao-PDR, Vietname, Thailand, Philippine, Indea, Nepal, Indonesia, Myamar, Srelankar. We discussed APFA implementation and UNDROP.



*Workshop on climate resilient agriculture in Thailand*

## LA VIA CAMPESINA Networks

FNN is a members of La Via Campesina (LVC). In 2023, FNN participated in regional and international LVC events. They are:

### 1. LA VIA CAMPESINA South East Asia and East Asia General Assembly

FNN sent delegate, who are chairman and vice-chairman of FNN's Board of Director, to take part La Via Campesina South East Asia and East Asia General Assembly from 4th Nov – 9th Nov 2023 at Sarawak Youth & Sports Complex, Kuching, Sarawak, MALAYSIA. The delegates came from Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, South Korea, Thailand, and Timor-Leste, and Vietnam. The Assembly focussed on discussion of women empowerment and action for climate change adaptation and woman rights, international and regional context, updated peasants rights, climate change, agrarian reform, and trade, and presentation of regional report, women report, youth report. The participants also visited some sites related to food safty (Morganic Organic Farm, Jln Merang, Bt 26, Serian) and human rights (Long House).



La Via Campesina South East Asia and East Asia General Assembly from 4th Nov – 9th Nov 2023 at Sarawak Youth & Sports Complex, Kuching, Sarawak, MALAYSIA.



Morganic Organic Farm, Jln Merang, Bt 26, Serian (food safty)

### 2. The 8th International Conference of La Via Campesina

The 8th International Conference of La Via Campesina was held from 01 to 08 December 2023 at Tequendama Hotel, Bogota city, Republic of Colombia. Delegates from over 180 rural worker organizations within La Via Campesina convened, sharing compelling messages of solidarity, struggle, and hope through various communication channels, reaching global peasants and the world. FNN is a member of LaVia Campesina. Three members of Board of Director (Chairmen and two Vice

Chairmen) of FNN participated in the 8th International Conference of La Via Campesina. We discussed the issues as follows:

- Youth and women issues,
- Men against patriarchy,
- 30 years of La Via Campesina and today's challenges,
- Food sovereignty in the vision of La Via Campesina,
- Global crisis confronted with food sovereignty,
- Construction of action plan 2024,

- Agroecology, land and agrarian reform,
- Climate crisis,
- Rights of peasants, and rural and migrant workers,
- Public policies, trade, market and income,
- Fight against all form of violence, criminalization and militarization in the rural areas.

As a result, the 8th conference developed action plan and issued the final declaration to the public.



The 8th International Conference of La Via Campesina at Tequendama Hotel, Bogota city, Republic of Colombia.



Fighting for woman's rights



# women and youth

FNN consists of total numbers of 53,856 membership of which 30,159 (56%) are women. Off them 98 Farmer Organizations are FNN member ACs, with 19,197 members of which 12,259 (64%) are women. 31% of ACs led by women, 46% of AC executives are women, and 57% of Vegetable Producer Groups led by women. To empower women for a brighter future, FNN acted as follows:

FNN ensure equal access to quality capacity development for women and youth. This includes addressing barriers such as gender stereotypes, and lack of time and resources. Additionally, vocational training and skill development programs can equip women with the necessary tools to enter the workforce and pursue fulfilling business.

FNN Promoted economic empower-

ment that is essential for women's development. We provided access to microfinance, promoting entrepreneurship, and implementing fair labor practices can help women and youth overcome economic challenges. We encouraged women's participation in traditionally male-dominated fields and leadership positions also contributes to their empowerment and reduces gender pay gaps.

FNN conducted dissemination workshops on social protection policy to AC members, especially women and youth. This improved women's health and well-being which is vital for their overall development. We created supportive environments that promote physical and mental well-being for women and youth to thrive in aspects of their business.

FNN facilitated women and youth to engage in policy dialogue for promoting women's rights and promote gender equality as a fundamental step towards women's development. This includes addressing discriminatory practices and promoting women's representation in decision-making processes at all levels.

Moreover, FNN set up and has implemented supportive policies and infrastructure for women's development. This includes childcare, flexible work arrangements, maternity and paternity leave policies, and accessible transportation. Such measures enable women to balance work and family responsibilities and actively participate in all spheres of life.



business planning training for producer group members, Kg. Thom province



Women in organic fertilizer production, Takeo province



Female leaders of ACs signed contract farming with Amru Rice, Kg. Chhnang province.



Women and youth participated in social protection policy dissemination workshop, Modulhiri province.

# Case Study

## Kolab Veal Veng

Mrs. Nop Kolab is an orphan of farmer family. She lived with her grandmother in Kraing Lvea village, Kraing Lvea commune, Samaki Meanchey district, Kampong Chhnang province. Kolab studied at primary school in Kraing Lvea commune. She completed grade 4. Living under the hardships of a struggling grandmother, Kolab married a man who lived in the same village for assisting her family. Kolab is a hard-working woman who farms and trades a little for a new family. Living together for a while, she also has a long-term vision, seeing in her real life that her efforts alone and her husband is lazy and create problems for the family. This made Kolab think that if this situation continued, his family would not be able to be rich like other villagers. She also introduced her husband to a small business plan, but he had no ideas and vision, which made her very upset and angry. She consulted with her grandmother and aunt to ask for a divorce and decided to emigrate, leaving grandmother with her aunt. Grandmother and aunt agreed with her request and explained to her about safe migration, which gave her more courage and confidence.

In 2015, Kolab left his hometown safely to live with his brother in Kandal village, Anlong Reap commune, Veal Veng district, Pursat province. She did not have land to farm like others, but she worked as a pepper and potato worker earning 20,000 Riel (US\$5) per day. This income is small, but for her it is a big income. During her time as a worker for pepper and potato plantation, she encountered many difficulties, such as health problems, social relationships (they looked down on), even buying rice, they owed them nothing. During this time, she learned a lot about living in society and dreamed of owning a farm and having a family to help each other and stop working as a worker, but she had no money. This dream was taken to be consulted with her brother and sister-in-law. After discussions, she decided to sell her land at hometown and with her saving money, she bought one hectare of her brother's land with amount of US\$8,000. The remaining money, she built a chicken cage on one side and stays on the other, and the rest of the land she grows vegetables for sale without making a profit yet due to lack of production capacity and cultivation techniques. When she was a laborer, a young man asked her to marry her, but she did not agree because she did not have a clear goal and was afraid of being wrong like her ex-husband. At that time, in order to achieve her ambition, she decided to accept the marriage proposal from the man because she used to know his behavior and overcome adversity together, when she was a worker in a pepper and potato farm.

After marriage, Kolab seems to have a lot of experience in life after marriage, her husband completed grade 3 and is gentle, not very talkative, and diligent. They discussed cultivating one hectare of land for high income. As a result, they do not get the results they expected. One day, Kolab, who sold less vegetables, decided to meet with Ms. Khuon Sey, the Head of Chamkar Morich Agriculture Cooperative (AC), to discuss the market for agricultural products. She was also introduced to the benefits of joining the AC member and market linkages. After the meeting, Kolab consulted with her husband to register AC members and invest in the business, but her husband seemed reluctant. However, Kolab peacefully decided to become a member of the AC. After becoming a member of the AC, Kolab received training on agro-ecology techniques such as soil improving, natural fertilizer production, safe vegetable cultivation from the Farmers and Nature Network Association (FNN) and Adra and visited model farmers in Takeo province. All this is the knowledge capital that made Kolab plan to cultivate one hectare of land according to her dreams, such as growing vegetables (cabbage, tomato, kale, cucumber, eggplant), banana, papaya, etc. As a result, Kolab earns 50,000 to 200,000 riels per day, about 3 million riels per month.

Through the visits and market demand, Kolab has expanded production by borrowing 30 million Riels from the Pramoy Agricultural Community and PRASAC Bank to purchase half an hectare of land, dug a well and built four net houses (1 size 75m x 30m) and \$ 4,000 for solar water pump system with installment payment from solar company. Kolab are not only grown in net houses, but she also grows in the field, leaving no land empty. In a net house, Kolab earns a gross income of 12 million to 16 million riels per year.

Kolap supplied these agricultural products to local markets, district markets, Phu Puy market, and FNN market. Local supply of roses has reduced sales of imported vegetables. Kolap was open to other farmers to learn from her for expanding the supply of safe vegetables and can even sign safe vegetable supply contracts with large private companies. Locals praised Kolab, who was casava farm worker and despised became the largest supplier of safe vegetables in Anlong Reap commune, Veal Veng district, Pursat province, and provided warmth and education to his children.

#### Consideration questions

1. Who is the leader / leader in this family and the Agriculture Cooperative?
2. What are the points that can lead this family successfully?
3. What are the contributions to socio-economic and environmental / climate change?
4. Is there a negative impact on the community?






Kolab started her couple's life from small farm. She used a part of her house for poultry raising. She kept it to remind her family and others about change of her lives.

From year to year, Kolab has planned to expand her farm. Up to 2023, Kolab became big vegetable supplier in Veal Veng district, Pursat province.



# project beneficiaries

project	beneficiaries	notes										
												
Flood Recovery Project (FRP)	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Direct</td> <td>Female</td> <td>432</td> <td>Total</td> <td>728</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect</td> <td>Female</td> <td>1,685</td> <td>Total</td> <td>3,253</td> </tr> </table>	Direct	Female	432	Total	728	Indirect	Female	1,685	Total	3,253	<p>Direct: all farmers who received support from the project. Indirect: total family members</p>
Direct	Female	432	Total	728								
Indirect	Female	1,685	Total	3,253								
Asia-Pacific Farmer Program (APFP-FO4A)	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Direct</td> <td>Female</td> <td>27,843</td> <td>Total</td> <td>53,750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect</td> <td>Female</td> <td>111,370</td> <td>Total</td> <td>215,000</td> </tr> </table>	Direct	Female	27,843	Total	53,750	Indirect	Female	111,370	Total	215,000	<p>Direct: all target AC members/families Indirect: total members of families of all AC members/families</p>
Direct	Female	27,843	Total	53,750								
Indirect	Female	111,370	Total	215,000								
Accelerating Inclusive Markets for Smallholders (AIMS) Project: Social Mobilizer (SM) and Value Chain and Investment Specialist (VCIS)	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Direct</td> <td>Female</td> <td>10,304</td> <td>Total</td> <td>17,532</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect</td> <td>Female</td> <td>31,111</td> <td>Total</td> <td>56,246</td> </tr> </table>	Direct	Female	10,304	Total	17,532	Indirect	Female	31,111	Total	56,246	<p>Direct: the farmer were registered in MIS who got BLT training Indirect: total members in the families</p>
Direct	Female	10,304	Total	17,532								
Indirect	Female	31,111	Total	56,246								
Enhancing Agricultural Value Chain for Co-operative Development in Cambodia (EAVaCoDev)	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Direct</td> <td>Female</td> <td>4,176</td> <td>Total</td> <td>6,109</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect</td> <td>Female</td> <td>14,240</td> <td>Total</td> <td>27,491</td> </tr> </table>	Direct	Female	4,176	Total	6,109	Indirect	Female	14,240	Total	27,491	<p>Direct: all target AC members/families Indirect: total members of al AC members/families</p>
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Rural Employment for COVID-19 Economic Recovery (RECOVER)	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Direct</td> <td>Female</td> <td>3,751</td> <td>Total</td> <td>6,825</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect</td> <td>Female</td> <td>17,677</td> <td>Total</td> <td>34,126</td> </tr> </table>	Direct	Female	3,751	Total	6,825	Indirect	Female	17,677	Total	34,126	<p>Direct: all target AC members/families Indirect: total members of AC members/families</p>
Direct	Female	3,751	Total	6,825								
Indirect	Female	17,677	Total	34,126								
Social Protection Communication	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Direct</td> <td>Female</td> <td>5,850</td> <td>Total</td> <td>13,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indirect</td> <td>Female</td> <td>30,303</td> <td>Total</td> <td>58,500</td> </tr> </table>	Direct	Female	5,850	Total	13,000	Indirect	Female	30,303	Total	58,500	<p>Direct: all target AC members and other stakeholders Indirect: total members of the families of AC members and stakeholders</p>
Direct	Female	5,850	Total	13,000								
Indirect	Female	30,303	Total	58,500								

# financial report 2023

Projects	% of Actual Expenditure, 2023
AIMs project, AIMs/C1/C/2018/29	100%
Market-Oriented Social Mobilizer-SM Ref. AIMs/C1/C/2017/27/1	99%
Livelihood Enhancement & Association of the Poor (LEAP) IDA Credit No. 5960-KH for Development of Community Institutions of the Poor (DCIP) contrat Number: KH-MOI-82848-CS-CQS (L1)	0%
Enhancing Agricultural Value Chain for Co-operative Development in Cambodia (EAVaCoDev), Project Number: 1010432-15	101%
EU RECOVER: Rural Employment for COVID-19 Economic Recovery project-#1010279-71	100%
Asia Pacific Farmers' Programme (APFP) and Support to Farmer's Organization for Asia (FO4A)	86%
Asia Pacific Farmers' Programme (APFP)	18%
"ASSURING RESILIENCY OF FAMILY FARMERS AMIDST COVID19 PROJECT (ARISE)"	78%
Inclusive Agriculture Value Chains, Project ID: NL-KVK-27108436-A-06604-05:KH, Grant ID: 1001871, Partner ID: 508293 from April to December 2023	96%
mproing Social Protection and Health (ISPH) project LSA-834202281-ISPH project	62%
Market Consolidation for Small Scale Farmers in Cambodia	89%
Contribution and Admin fee income	7%
LVC SEEA regional meeting	0%
Short term project, Training and service	83%

# donors and partners

## donors

Flood Recovery Project (FRP)



Asia-Pacific Farmer Program (APFP-F04A))



Accelerating Inclusive Markets for Smallholders (AIMS) Project: Social Mobilizer (SM) and Value Chain and Investment Specialist (VCIS)



Enhancing Agricultural Value Chain for Co-operative Development in Cambodia (EAVaCoDev)



Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI): Improving the Participation of the Youth in Agriculture



FAIR4ALL Inclusive Agriculture Value Chains



Rural Employment for COVID-19 Economic Recovery (RECOVER)



Social Protection Communication



Short project: MRLG, GAFSP, ILC/NES (CBI7, CBI2), Food Summit System



## we closely cooperated with

### Government institutions

#### National level

- Ministry of Commerce
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Rural Development
- Ministry of Economy and Finance



#### Sub-national level

- Commune, district and provincial authorities, and relevant provincial technical departments and district technical offices in the target provinces.

### NGOs, private sector and civil society

- National and international NGOs working in the same target areas
- National and international NGOs working in related thematic fields
- Private sector
- All relevant Community Based Organizations in the same target

#### National NGOs



#### International NGOs



#### Private sector



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