

KNOWLEDGE FOR DEVELOPMENT: CREATING RURAL RESOURCE DATABASE FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN CAMBODIA (SURVEY) 2009

Finland Futures Research Centre

Location of the action: Cambodia

Total costs of the project: 120 000 €

Funded by: Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Length of the project: 1–12/2009

Project partners: Indochina Research Ltd., Cambodia

The primary objective of the research project was to provide basic data on rural resources and livelihood strategies in Cambodia. The analysis of the data and results of the study were aimed to support climate sensitive and sustainable natural resource policies and improved development assistance for poverty reduction in the country. The core of the research was the survey, which consisted of 1250 households and village headmen interviews conducted mainly in the rural areas of Cambodia.

The survey consisted of questions under several topics; 1) consumption of natural resources for livelihood, such as agricultural, forest, water and energy; 2) human resources such as education, skills, division of labour, migration potential to urban areas; 3) local institutions and their functions, such as decision-making, ownership and use rights of natural resources; 4) means to cope with unexpected constrains such as illness or crop failure; 5) and abilities and potential for livelihood diversification including e.g. energy crop plantations. Besides survey questions, also open questions



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were made for villagers and village headmen in order to further elaborate livelihood issues and gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics and strategies in rural Cambodian villages. The data was mostly collected by Indochina Research Ltd., which is an experienced regional research company.

The data was gathered to databases which were used for analysing the sustainability of rural livelihood strategies and dynamics in Cambodia, as well as the patterns and causalities between food security and climate change issues, and rural resource base. Equally importantly the databases and the statistics provided long-term support in the formulation of development assistance programmes and national policymaking in poverty reduction.



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Turunen, J., Snäkin, J-P., Panula-Ontto, J., Lindfors, H., Kaisti, H., Luukkanen, J., Magistretti, S. & C. Mang (2011) Livelihood Resilience and Food Security in Cambodia - results from a Household Survey. FFRC eBOOK 1/2011. Finland Futures Research Centre, University of Turku.