

# CAMFAD

Rural Food Security Program  
(CRFSP), 2007

Contract no: 06cam\_4604\_07at\_1133

## Final Report

15 February 2008

Supported By



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**i- Organization name and Address:**

**A- Organisation**

- In Khmer: SA MA KUM KAK SE KOR KAM PUCHEA APIWAT KAK SEKAM (Presently known as SAHAK PHAN SA MA KUM KAK SE KOR KAM PUCHEA APIWAT KAKSEKAM).

-In English: Cambodian Farmers' Association for Agricultural Development, (presently known as Cambodian Farmers' Association Federation for Agricultural Development).

**B- Office address**

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Svay Rieng district, Svay Rieng Town,  
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Website: <http://www.camfad.org>

**ii- Leaders and staffs**

Leaders and Staffs		
Board		
Board of Director	Surname and Given Name	In charge since
Chairperson*	Koy Chhy	1996
Vice and acting chairperson	Tey Saroon	2007
Vice chairperson	Ké Han	2007
Vice chairperson*	Tep Kosal	2005
Members		
CFA leader	Net Thorng	2007
CFA leader	Koy Sithorn	2007
CFA leader	Pao Suy	2007
CFA leader	Keo Onn	2007
CFA leader	Kong sabo	2007
CFA leader	Hoeng Prum	2007
CFA leader	Kong Savoeun	2007

\* (was nominated in the past) others are elected by members,

<b>Management and resource persons</b>	<b>Surname and Given Name</b>	<b>In charge since</b>
<b>Staff at the office</b>		
Executive director	Sok Sotha	2003
Senior officer	Tith Dany	2007
Admin and finance officer	Keo Tola	2004
Coordinator	Chhum Pidor	2007
CDF (Rural Development)	Lo Davy	2007
CDF (Rural Development)	Meas Noun	2007
CDF (Capacity Building)	Tep Sovann	2006
CDF (Capacity Building)	Mey Min	1996
Agriculture Manager	Tep Rotha	2007
Office Assistant	Sim Sophearak	2007
<b>Technical Support</b>		
Agricultural Economist	Phnom Penh	2004
Agronomist	Svay Rieng	2004

### **iii- Preface**

Cambodian Farmers Association for Agricultural Development (CamFad) was initiated during the UN Transparency Authority in Cambodia from 92-95 and was officially registered as a national farmers Association with the Ministry of Interior. According to the efforts and working voluntarily for rural farmers. According to the efforts and increasing of her members in the rural areas, recently this association has developed its roles to the umbrella of small producer organizations and represents the interests of small scale farmers in the national level as shown in the profiling document made by Agriterra. The federation was developed from the Cambodian Farmers' Association for Agricultural Development in Svay Rieng to the Cambodian Farmers' Association Federation for Agricultural Development (CamFad) and recognized officially by the Ministry of Interior (MOI) on 25th May 2007 through Ref nr: 583 Sar Chor Nor by H.E Sar Kheng, the Co-prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and Minister of Interior to represent and serve interests of small farmers in rural Cambodia.

The objectives of establishing of this umbrella organization are to promote the qualities and living-standard of people, represent interests of small scale farmers particularly the most vulnerable people living in the rural areas and facilitate the status of social economics of people in Cambodia. The federation will represent all members as commune farmers' association (CFAs), Communities Based (CBs) and other local farmers associated which registered as members of the federation to have their voice heard to the public.

In order to have grassroots communities succeeded in development; the organization must necessarily need a statute stipulated in Vision/ Mission/ Goal and Objective which follow accurately as mentioned in the rules below:

## **Vision**

- The federation wishes to see Cambodia has a complete Peace, Food security, People can leave from Poverty, Hunger, Illiteracy and discrimination access to solidarity amongst Cambodian nation towards regional, international and in the world level.

## **Mission**

- Build and Strengthen the Capacity of rural poor farmers and or peasants.
- Promote the rural community development programs focusing on the participation from all kinds of people.
- Strengthen and foster a rural community in the framework of standing in social justice, equity and mutual autonomy.
- Lead farmers, peasants access to real income from agriculture with sustainable market.

## **Goal**

- Assist all kind of people in the target areas, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable people in order to encourage them access to food security and market opportunity through the Capacity Building Program, Integrated Farming System Program, Education Program (Human Resource Development), Health, advocacy, gender, and creation of small-scale business and small enterprises for rural farms families.

## **Objectives**

- People in those rural communities will change and improve their standard of living better without hunger in the future.
- People in the communities have a solidarity and respect the rights of each other.
- Market for agricultural products must be guaranteed for farmers.
- People in the communities will receive power and self-security with democracy.
- Promote and foster agricultural activities through forming of small-group producers in the rural areas.

## **Duties**

- Communicate and cooperate with the related internal and external governmental institutions and other national and international institutions in order to successfully achieve the main goals of poverty reduction in the rural areas.
- Build the capacity of farmers in agriculture, related skills access to market.
- Initiatives in rural development.

## **iv- Introduction**

The aim of this project is to improve the farmers' living standard and to joint Cambodian government policy of poverty reduction, in the 40 villages of the four communes (**Thlor**k, **Portireach**, **Svay Ta Yean** and **Thnot** communes) of two

districts (Svay Chrum and Kampong Ro) in Svay Rieng province (Near the border of Viet Nam). More than this, according to the interests and requests of rural farmers in other villages, CamFad uses this opportunity to enlarge its target areas to five new communes successfully, these are (1). in Svay Chrum district **Cham Lang, Svay Chrum, Chek, Basac**, (2). in Svay Rieng district **Koy Trabek** commune, So that CamFad has formed and elected freely and fairly in five new communes in 2007. Generally, CamFad has **nine** communes of **three** districts in Svay Rieng province. This project has also strengthened the organization, financial management and transportation means towards real representative of small scale farmers/producers. In 2007, CamFad achieved the purposes of formation and election of group leaders, village farmer association leaders (VFA) and commune farmer association leaders (CFA) in nine communes in Svay Rieng province by democracy free and fair election of leaders. During this period, CamFad also trained those elected leaders with the roles and responsibilities for their sustainable management as well as their groups processing for the VFA and CFA members.

Knowledge of individual members has gained such as pig raising, fish raising, chicken raising, vegetable/crops growing, rice growing and agriculture production process to village women associations as gender empowerment and balance to all members of CamFad before the next phase of the project (procurement of facilities) in order them to get awareness of their activities in a sustainable development access to real professional producers for market demands. But to do this, not too easy because CamFad lack of sufficient resources to serve its activities and needs of registered members due to the behaviors and or habit of rural poor people always asked for help after they have training sessions. The habit of asking money from the participants is also a problem according to International NGOs use money for their participants costly at the local areas. The changes of their traditional behaviors in agriculture and innovation towards present needs at the markets are parts of the problems due to limited resource of CamFad at present. The vary members (seasonal migration to find jobs in the city) made us difficult to proceed the activities because they always leave their villages seasonally to find job outside to survive their family while the tools for agricultural activities of rural farmers are insufficient and low technology, less work to do in the rural areas whilst they lack of capital to invest on their land. According to the completion of the transition period in 2007 supported by Agriterra, CamFad would like to raise fund in order to provide as a start up inputs and or capital for those registered, elected and trained members in 2007 as promised to assist and help them. This is one of our concerns and difficulties before fund and facilities available to CamFad, because farmers experienced from other NGOs in the past that they promised to help and assist them finally the NGOs did not respect their promise. So CamFad has to work carefully and closely with donor agencies in order to avoid this problem and work together to find positive strategies to work with farmers for long and sustainable development.

Depending on the actual plan of enlargement of membership, CamFad planned to establish its members in 10 provinces (2 provinces as the second step in 2008 and

2 provinces in 2009 and may be 5 provinces more in other year after 2010) these members will be formed and elected freely and fairly and they will also become a registered membership of CamFad legally.

Through this transition period project supported by Agriterra, CamFad will actually reach to its targeted goals as planned if Agriterra still strengthen and help in resource assistance to ensure the sustainable development of rural poor farmers in Cambodia.

Due to the low capacity of farmers on cultivation, horticulture, low productivity in agriculture, many issues of crops cultivation, many issues on animals raising and lack of transforming process techniques of agricultural products and the marketing information that led the farmers' benefit from their agriculture to be least and their living standard to be poor in a long period ago. CamFad is a Cambodian National Farmer Organization (CNFO), working in collaboration with other development agencies to improve the living standard of rural farmers and step by step access to the food security and marketing activities properly in the very near future.

The component of this project have therefore been carefully selected to ensure that physically less able and medium households and those with the limited background of the appropriate technology of agricultural improvement may participate fully in all project's activities. The project aim to maximize household production capacity regardless of physical strength. Due to the social and physical limitation within our members and or individual households, this project will be pursuing work such as rice cultivation, animals raising, vegetable growing, capacity building which necessitates sustained inputs of traction or physical stamina for small rural producers in Cambodia.

In December 2007, CamFad has some constraints with fund shortage to support the visit of farmers to Battambang according to the schedule of visit of members to Battambang.

Generally CamFad observe that the situation during the last communal election both campaign and during the election period were peaceful and did not affect our project implementation, because the political leaders respected the rules, regulations and code of conducts of the National Election Committee (NEC) that is the top institution for preparation of election in Cambodia. CamFad also observe that there were the least complaints and violence compared to previous election sessions in Cambodia. Generally, the security in Cambodia is peaceful everywhere day and night, more credible manner the former leaders of Khmer rouge regime were arrested and sentenced to prison in 2008. It shows that Cambodia has laws to protect people and against the crime or other bad deeds in the nationwide.

For the office supply, CamFad learned and experienced that there were more needs occurred during the actual practice to serve suitable work such as computer desks, color printer, bookshelf, photo copier, rain coats, spare parts, and other actual occurring of office materials etc that was not mentioned in the estimated budget. More than this CamFad met deficit during increase of price at the market such as the cost of motorcycle, during the budget proposal it is only 1,100 U.S dollar per set of Dream 120 cc, but the price risen up higher than the expectation (1200 to 1250 US dollars per set, publishing of training books for members is also no. of concerns for CamFad etc.

#### v- Activities

In January 2007, CamFad represented by Mr. Sok Sotha went down to meet the local authorities in three administration levels i.e. the district governors, communal chiefs and village chiefs in the operational areas of CamFad in the nine targeted communes in order to inform them about the project implementation in their areas. He also informed the project concepts which is supported by Agriterra, The Netherlands to those relevant institutions and asked them for cooperation with CamFad staff and all CamFad registered members in their areas such as CFA leaders.

According to the new strict policy of CamFad, at first our staff did not understand clearly of how to follow and respect the by-laws, regulations and the purposes of the project. Anyway, CamFad staff can work properly by their day to day and experienced from their daily work under the indication of the project concepts by the Executive director in every weekly meeting at CamFad office and under the guidelines, regulations and strategies of CamFad. Presently, all staffs are capable and confident to implement the project concepts clearly.

In January to December 2007, CamFad has conducted its activities through the project titled CamFad Rural Food Security Program (CRFSP) supported by Agriterra, The Netherlands under the FFP the theme of development for developing countries as members of IFAP. Office of CamFad is supplied with 7 computers, 1 fax/phone, 2 printers i.e. HP DeskJet and Laser, 6 desks for computers, 1 cupboard, 1 digital camera, office telephone/ Fax and internet and website (<http://www.camfad.org>) is available to visit now, purchased 4 new motorcycles and 2 secondhand motorcycles for transportation and conduction of the project implementation at fields.

At this final report, CamFad has achieved its main objectives as below:

Finished its village workshop to disseminate the project concepts to villagers together with the



Transportation means



CamFad office

registration of six groups in each village i.e. Pig raising groups, Chicken raising groups, Vegetable growing groups, Rice growing groups, Fish raising groups and Village Women Associations (VWAs).



All groups are elected democratically by members registered free and fair under the participation from tripartite level i.e. CamFad staff, local governmental authorities and farmers themselves.

In total, CamFad has legally formed and elected 362 groups in 62 villages equal to 2492 members which 1699 (68.18%) members are women, which men represent of 793 (31.82%) on the legal and correct list at the moment. CamFad has also trained the roles and responsibility to 970 group leaders (secretary, vice chief and chief) which 510 are women. These 970 group leaders received knowledge and understand the roles and responsibilities to practise in their groups with long run and sustainable development.



Dissemination of project concepts to villagers and registration of members



Dissemination of project concepts to villagers



CamFad staff written the criterion of election for members



Picture at the registration stage of members based



Activity of election of group leaders



Sok Sotha, Executive director of CamFad take a group picture with new elected board members and past nominated board in 2007

On 16 November 2007, CamFad has organized a study visit for farmers from two communes (Thlork and Porthreach) amongst the nine communes in Svay Rieng province to visit at Norea Tein, Prey Kla, Krol Ko and Khuoch villages in Krol Ko commune, Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng province. The project activities of these villages supported by ifad under collaboration with the DA called Rural Poverty Reduction Program "RPRP" and Biogas program which focus mainly on Integrated farming system (animal raising, fish raising, crops growing and fruit-trees). There are 50 farmers leaders from two communes of Thlork and Porthreach to visit the animals raising activities in Krol Ko commune of Svay Chrum district.



Sok Sotha, report on activities of CamFad during the opening session on technical training in agriculture to CamFad's members in 2007 with presence of Mr. Chan Saravong, Chief of agricultural diffusion of DA.



A visit of pig raising of farmers in Krol Ko village



Visiting the storage house of natural and manure fertilizer of farmers in Krol Ko commune



Participants are listening to the explanation of Mr. Sann Vuthy, vice chief of diffusion of DA in Svay Rieng on activities of farmers in the villages at present, CamFad is working in collaboration with DA.



Activities of ducks and chicken raising in the rural household families of Cambodia



Mr. Sann Vuthy is explaining about the importance of Biogas for farmers and the advantages of exhausted manure used as special fertilizer for crops

On 14<sup>th</sup> December 2007, CamFad has organized a study tour for 68 participants, which 22 participants are female from two CFA members i.e. Thnot CFA, and Svay Tayean CFA in Kampong Ro district to visit Chanroeun phal community in Tasous commune, Svay Chrum district and visited the activities of farmers in individual household of vegetable growers. The purposes of the visit are to extract experiences from activities of farmers, improving living standard of local community access to a sustainable practice in the future. The participants could bring experience and knowledge to practise in their each community in order to arrange and get benefits from agriculture.

They will have opportunity to exchange experiences and learn more about living conditions in other areas, integrated farming system and invented programs in agriculture, and how to circulate capital in the communities etc because in the year 2008 CamFad's members are coming into practise of their activities under the new project of CamFad's Rural Poverty Reduction and Market Access (CROP-MA) in three provinces as the pilot stage and also the main strategies of CamFad amongst the ten mapping targets throughout the country in Cambodia

In order to implement an effective work with democracy and transparency in the decision making level, CamFad decided to elect the leaders from those registered communal leaders as board of director of CamFad transitionally to influence the public before the coming of the first general assembly (GA) in 2009.



Activities of chicken raising in the rural household families through external support



Participants asked questions to vegetable growers at Chamreun Phal community



Welcome by a chief of Chamreun Phal community



Harvesting of lettuce of farmers at Chamreun Phal community

CamFad wishes to encourage more participation from women in all sectors, recently the percentage of women participation in CamFad activities is 66% of all registered members, this number has gained over the expected calculation of women membership requirements of CamFad policy in empowerment of gender participation of all activities of CamFad up to 60%, anyway a percentage of women in the decision making level is still low due to rural women are shy and reluctant to obtain a high position within institutions and other sectors in Cambodia. Women in rural Cambodia usually have a heavy burden than men, especially in agriculture and child care, but women are very less in the function of leaders, due to the knowledge background of rural women are low and the traditional habit of rural people in Cambodia do not allow their daughters to study in a high level of education in the past, this is why CamFad efforts to achieve the purposes of recovering sustainable work in agriculture to enable them to get real income from agriculture that can help themselves in the future, so that they have enough resource to support their children at school properly access to high education in the rural areas. So the empowerment of women is very important to join in development of their society with men.

According to the project implementation, CamFad planned to issue leaflets of the assessment of market demands for production price publication for distribution to its members, but now CamFad did not practice yet because we realize that during the this period farmers will not understand clearly about the importance of leaflets and on the other hand due to the cost of publication of the leaflets is too expensive, CamFad will do next time, because that time is very important for farmers to know about their products' price when they start their producing activities.

On 26<sup>th</sup> December 2007, CamFad organized an other study visit to Battambang province which 9 elected CFA leaders as the Board of CamFad and all CamFad staff at the head office went to visit and study the activities of two CCSF's communities charters i.e. one in Chrey Thom community, bases in Thmor Kol district and an other is Ek Phnom commune, bases in Ek Phnom district of Battambang province.



Mr. San Pailin presents the activity of ChreyThom community to participants

Each community can manage their long run by Savings which classified into three types of savings product provided to member organizations as below:

-Compulsory savings: To become members, they are required to open compulsory saving account. Minimum requirement is 10,000 Riels (US\$2.50), which need to be deposited regularly.

-Voluntary savings: Members are welcome to deposit as much as possible. The account is

-Demand Deposits: Members are welcome to deposit as much as possible. The account is subject to withdrawal at any time as per preference.



Chief of Ek Phnom community, Ms. Prak Sarany is presenting experiences of community to participants

Through this study visit, CamFad concluded that all participants get new experience to analyze and amend their own management access to sustainable development and will reduce external support in the future. Anyway, it is only one part of success, CamFad and her leaders together with the Executive director and other resource persons have to find other effective methods to improve and strengthen our own capacity to meet all those requirements that may need to sustain the long run of organization and members through good collaboration with other development agencies to

help and indicate good methodologies, strategies to overcome the constraints of poverty of rural vulnerable people.

## vi- Result

Through the intervention of financial resource from Agriterra, The Netherlands, This project has strengthened CamFad to manage its work properly due to the lack of transportation means, office utilities, and administrative cost including internet, email, Fax and Phone due to the most need of CamFad to intervene and organizational strengthening. The capacity of CamFad staffs has also strengthened through this project activities. The economics of rural families will improve better by establishment of members based for sustainable manners development (the village farmers association VFA, commune farmers association CFA) have already established and elected freely and fairly of their leaders by participation actively from the local authorities at each commune. Real and legal documents for farmers groups are published such as 973 technical training manuals were published for members which classified as below:

**a.** 225 pig technical training manuals, **b.** 183 chicken technical training manuals, **c.** 165 crops and vegetable technical training manuals, **d.** 159 rice technical training manuals, **e.** 64 fish technical training manuals and **f.** publication of 177 guideline manuals for leaders to use. Legal election of leaders was acknowledged by the local governmental authorities to run their own activities in the commune and representing the interests of their members. Initiatives of increasing of their income from agriculture can approach them directly by all those documents and instruction from CamFad resource staff. Farmers will understand the importance of getting income from their agricultural activities on ground to improve their family economics, have enough food to eat and response to the local market demands.



Activities of technical training on vegetable horticulture to members



Activities of technical training on vegetable horticulture to members

Through the intervention from Agriterria, CamFad has improved her power to influent the public strongly and in the near future CamFad hopes that some of agreements between small producers and the consumers such as hotel owners, restaurant owners are available, and the price of farmers' products will be guaranteed. This project really gives high value to CamFad as well as rural Cambodian people to overcome the poverty in this country, especially in the areas of CamFad's work.

CamFad hopes strongly that Cambodian small producers at the rural areas will have suitable market for their products in the near future if CamFad has been empowered by other development agencies to reach the main strategies of CamFad together with our capacity, honest and responsibility and giving high value for small producers. In this means time, CamFad has a great ambition of having-market initiatives for small scale farmers i.e. farmers can produce and sell their products on the market by themselves in a sustainable manner without threat from the middle man etc.

In the future, CamFad really wishes and ask Agriterria in order to help CamFad to overcome the constraints and poverty of rural farmers in Cambodia and join to make effective strategies of CamFad towards success that CamFad found that it is important for farmers to increase their producing activities such the intervention of water source support for farming practice, agricultural tools, capacity building, facilities, capital as a start up for farmers and market establishment for farmers' products, giving advisory and further organizational strengthening, support the meeting that will be organized by CamFad to invite all consumers (restaurant, hotel keepers etc), relevant institutions, government, NGOs and FOs etc and producers to meet and discuss their problems, requirements, price and quality etc.

In the next period CamFad would ask for study visits both internal and external country in order enable farmers to learn experiences from those provinces and countries to practice and study new technology from parts to parts of the country and outside the country to improve the knowledge of our rural farmers to practice and disseminate in Cambodia.



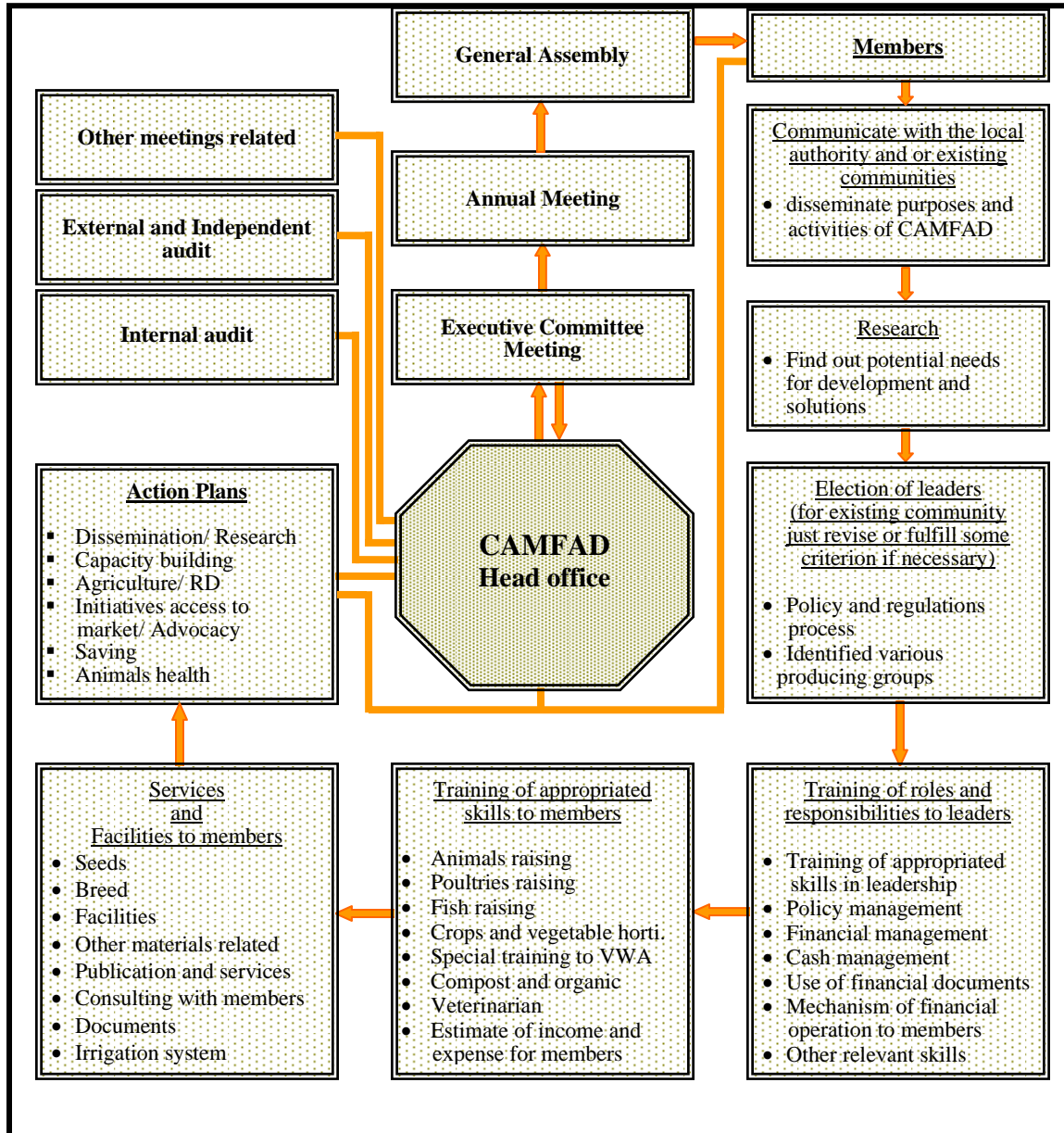
Activities of technical training on principles, roles and responsibilities to VWAs' members



Activities of technical training on chicken and pig raising to members

### vii- Cycle of CamFad working strategies

To verify that CamFad has conducted her activities correctly as strategic planning as designed by our working groups, we have designed the cycle of work implementation as below:



### viii- Conclusion

This project under the intervention from Agriterra, will bring real benefit for farmers directly in a sustainable manner through the strengthening of organization and establishment of membership based which allow farmers to become leaders, so that they can meet and speak their problems in our regular executive committee meeting every six month and more and more members will register with CamFad to join force in making rural lives better through sustainable practices of farmers

by themselves. To overcome the constraints and difficulties of finding real market for farmers, CamFad would use this opportunity to lobby the government and join with other development agencies in order to serve the interests of small farmers counting from regional, national and international level. The policy of CamFad has been changed from NGO style to the federation which represents of small producers and commitment toward FO style with transparency and respect to democratic manner and the board of director and other board members have been born by election, the executive committee members has been formulated from the leaders of commune farmers' association (CFA) which registered as members of the federation and have their regular meeting every six month period to discuss their activities within the committee. The by-laws and regulations of CamFad must be respected and clear to all members. The internal audit has been set up to verify all expenses and incomes of the federation every quarter and as well as to control all activities implemented.

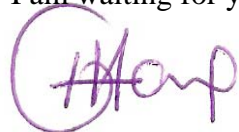
CamFad will achieve its purposes of the rural poverty reduction, knowledge improvement, broad understanding and capacity of rural people will improve higher than before and access to initiatives of getting income from agriculture. This transition period is good hope for CamFad and as well as Cambodian farmers as a bridge toward success in the future with sustainable development due to clear policy of management was set up and agreed by all elected leaders, management team and officially recognized by the government of Cambodia.

#### **ix- Recommendation**

I feel that Agriterra is sufficient with the greatest policy to help farmers in different needs of different countries or regions access good solidarity amongst nations on earth, especially for the poor developing countries who are in the most needs of help. Agriterra really thought of the needs and difficulties of different countries with different problems, situation and solution.

In the name of Cambodian people and on behalf of CamFad's members I am very thankful to Agriterra, leaders and colleagues and the Dutch government in helping farmers and farmers' organization to find good solution for sustainable development in the future in Cambodia. To join in improving better collaboration between Agriterra and partners, I have some small ideas to comments that the project funding cycle is very good, but the proposal process and transfer of resource should be earlier, because some FOs in developing countries may need urgent intervention due to their organizations are not so strong yet. The delay or lateness of the budget handling might impede and conflict the schedule of the project implementation.

I am waiting for your correction and comments to improve it.



Reported by: Sok Sotha  
Executive director,