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INFORMATION PACK

MetKasekor Consultative Meeting

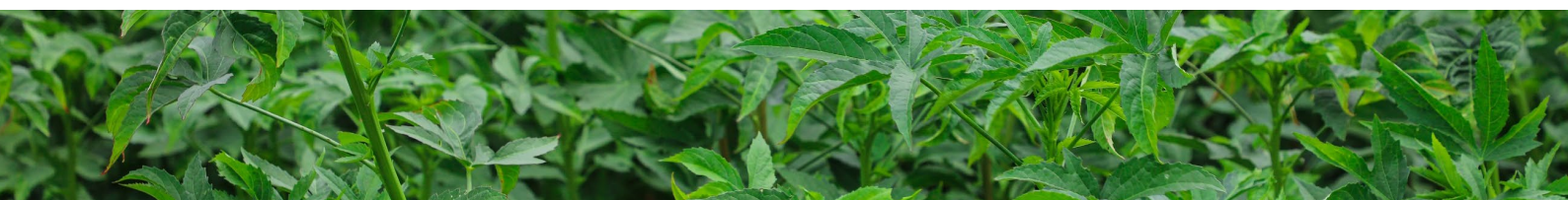
05 August 2021





Contents

1.	Challenges that Initiate <i>MetKasekor</i>	4
1.1.	Challenges in Agriculture	4
1.2.	Need for Sustainable Intensification.....	5
1.3.	Historical Timeline of <i>MetKasekor</i> Journey	6
1.4.	Overview of <i>MetKasekor</i> Product	8
1.5.	Current partners/stakeholder/implementer of the model	10
1.6.	Coming Activity & Next Step	11
1.7.	Future Expectation/Contribution of the Model in Agriculture Sector.....	12
2.	<i>MetKasekor</i> Consultative Meeting	13
2.1.	Objective of <i>MetKasekor</i> Consultative Meeting.....	13
2.2.	Agenda of the Meeting	14
2.3.	Participant List	15





Thank You Message – Department of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DEAFF), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

Dear colleagues, friends, and supporters,

Allow me to warmly thank the organizers of this important meeting for giving me the privilege of welcoming and addressing you all. For me, it is an honour and a pleasure.

I would also like to thank them for having brought us together in this wonderful journey, for sharing good insight, and all precious time in our discussion from the start until today that we finally share the new model we jointly developed.

Today's consultative meeting on "**MetKaksekor**", hosted by Department of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Land Resources Management (DARLM), Department of Agriculture Engineering (DAEng), Royal University of Agriculture, Center of Excellence on Sustainable Agriculture Intensification and Nutrition (CE SAIN), CIRAD, and Swisscontact, aims to introduce you the **MetKaksekor** model, an innovative extension model, and to bring together the relevant stakeholders to learn more about the model and to get to know their thoughts and interest on the possible future collaboration.

MetKasekor is an innovative extension model. **MetKasekor** focuses on opening the market for private sector investments. The model is a government resource for the future with the intention to improve the public agricultural extension service system in Cambodia.

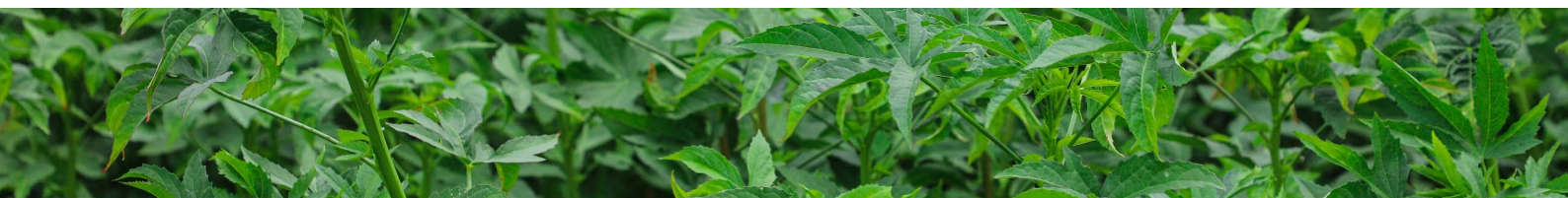
Department of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries supports the innovative ideas and solution for smallholder farmers to access technical information, technologies, and services to benefit their farming activities leading to increasing productivity and income.

I sincerely hope that this meeting will deliberate and discuss all the different facets of this exciting topic and come up with recommendations that will lead to a better solution, also hope that you will find the meeting valuable and enjoyable.

I wish the meeting a success.

Warm Regards

Dr. **Mao Minea**, Director of Department of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

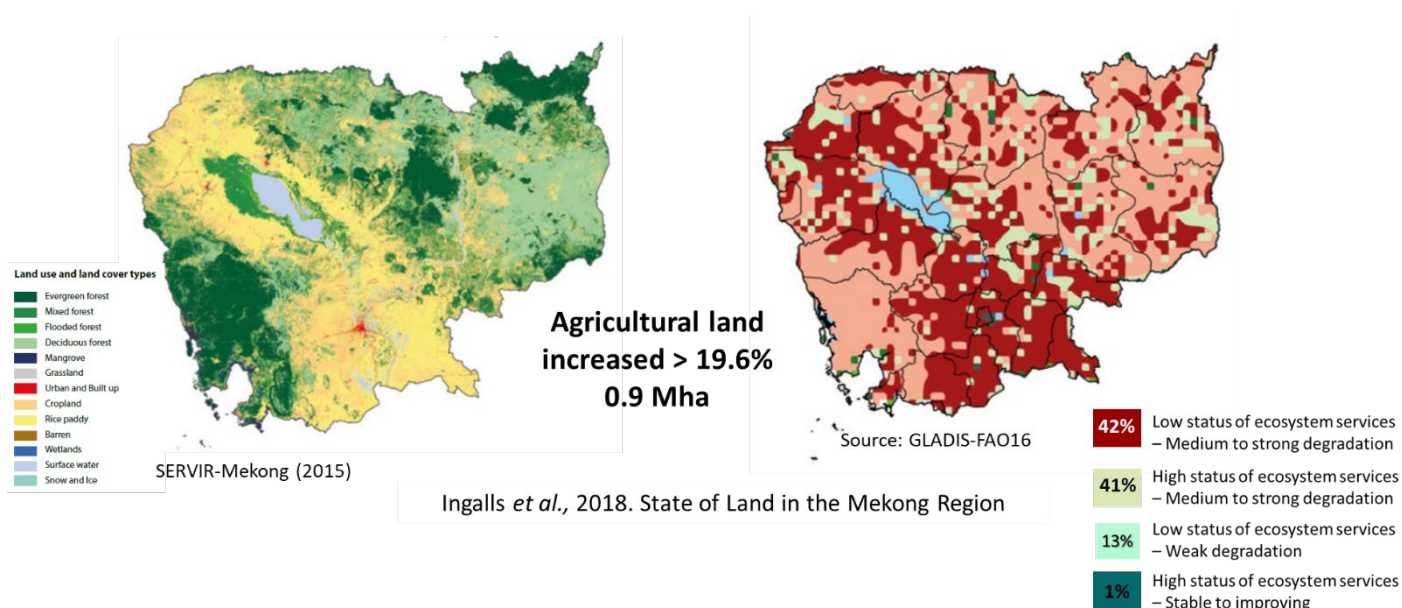




1. Challenges that Initiated *MetKasekor*

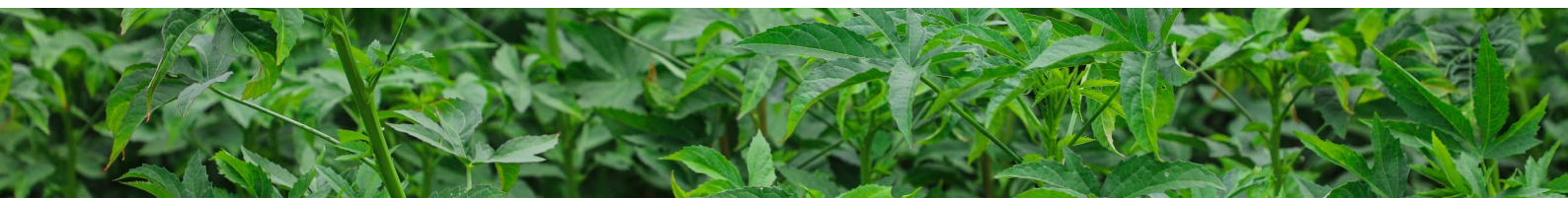
1.1. Challenges in Agriculture

There is a need for the Cambodian agriculture sector to reinvent itself by shifting from increased production through land expansion towards sustainable intensification. As Cambodia “finds new pathways to drive future growth,”¹ technology will play a critical role in transforming the sector. The Royal Government of Cambodia’s (RGC) vision to modernise Cambodia’s agriculture recognises that sustainable intensification “primarily depends on the application of techniques, new technologies, R&D, mechanisation, and increased capacity of irrigation to improve productivity.” This is reflected in several key documents that have been developed by the RGC².



¹ World Bank (2015). Cambodia Agriculture in Transition: Opportunities and Risks.

² The RGC’s overarching development strategy is articulated in the Rectangular Strategy Phase IV. The National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018 outlines the priority actions to be undertaken by MAFF including to strengthen the agricultural system by “improv[ing] agricultural technology services.” Other key policies include the Agriculture Extension Policy (2015) which has an objective to “improve the effectiveness and efficiency of access to new agricultural knowledge, information and technologies by farmers and farming communities for enhancing agricultural productivity.” The policy recognizes that “technology development, dissemination, and implementation will be an important cornerstone of an effective pluralistic extension system.





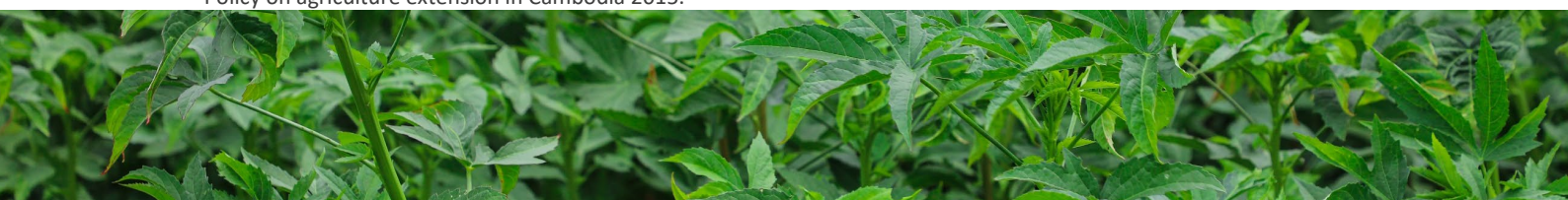
1.2. Need for Sustainable Intensification

The future transformation of agriculture in Cambodia is visualized towards sustainable intensification which improve the agricultural productivities through new adaptable techniques and technology through the agriculture extension services. Hence, in Cambodia, shifting from conventional practice toward a sustainable intensification practice, the goal is required the effective agricultural extension service that enhance agricultural productivity, diversification, commercialization, and sustainable natural resources management ³.

Sustainable Intensification looks at optimizing resource utilization and management whereby farmers produce greater yields by using fewer inputs and without increasing land area. Among the key components of sustainable intensification, CA is one of them

1. Efficiency: better use of on-farm and imported resources.
2. Substitution: focuses on the replacement of technologies and practices.
3. Redesign: (transformative) to harness ecological processes and connect scales (field to markets)
4. Conservation Agriculture: healthy soil, increased resilience of the production system.
5. Three Pillars of Conservation Agriculture: no minimum tillage, permanent soil cover, species diversity and spatial arrangement.

³ Policy on agriculture extension in Cambodia 2015.





1.3. Historical Timeline of *MetKasekor* Journey

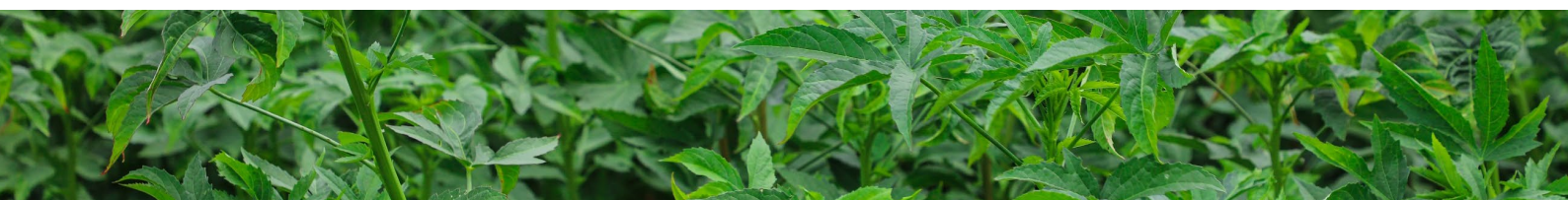
Since 2004, innovative cropping systems and practices based on the principles of Conservation Agriculture (CA) have been designed and tested in different agroecosystems of Cambodia. Results from these scientific studies, showed that Conservation Agricultural Production Systems (CAPS) improved soil fertility, reduced labour, conserved water, increased yield and smallholder farmer's income. However, for a sustainable change to occur in farming systems, these cropping systems and practices must be adopted by the private sector as they play a crucial role in providing technologies, operational know-how and information needed for different value-chains.

The success of the promotion of CA machinery is primarily the result of the gradual development of CA thinking, which started back in 2004, when the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) partnered with French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) to form the Crop Diversification and Small-scale Rubber Plantation project funded by the French Agency for Development (AFD). In 2008, the PADAC (Projet d'Amélioration de l'Agriculture Cambodgienne) was launched with as main targeted areas Kampong Cham and Battambang provinces (AFD). Activities were also implemented in the pioneer front of Battambang from 2010 to 2014 under the Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management CRSP (USAID), and through a partnership between the General Directorate of Agriculture (GDA), Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management (DALRM), CIRAD and North Carolina A&T State University.

From 2014 onwards, PADAC was converted to the Conservation Agriculture Service Center (CASC) and integrated as a unit of DALRM/GDA. GDA provided DALRM/CASC with 14.5 ha of land in Bos Khnor (Kampong Cham, Chamcarleu) for research, training, and seed preservation purposes. In Battambang, since 2014, CASC has been providing no-till services in rice, maize, and cassava. The farmers were paying full costs of the services; however, the project bought the equipment and was paying for other costs associated with the provision of the services. Thus, there was a need to engage with the private sector and specifically the local service providers to transition from intensive plough-based cultivation methods to CA-based management both in the uplands and lowlands of Battambang.

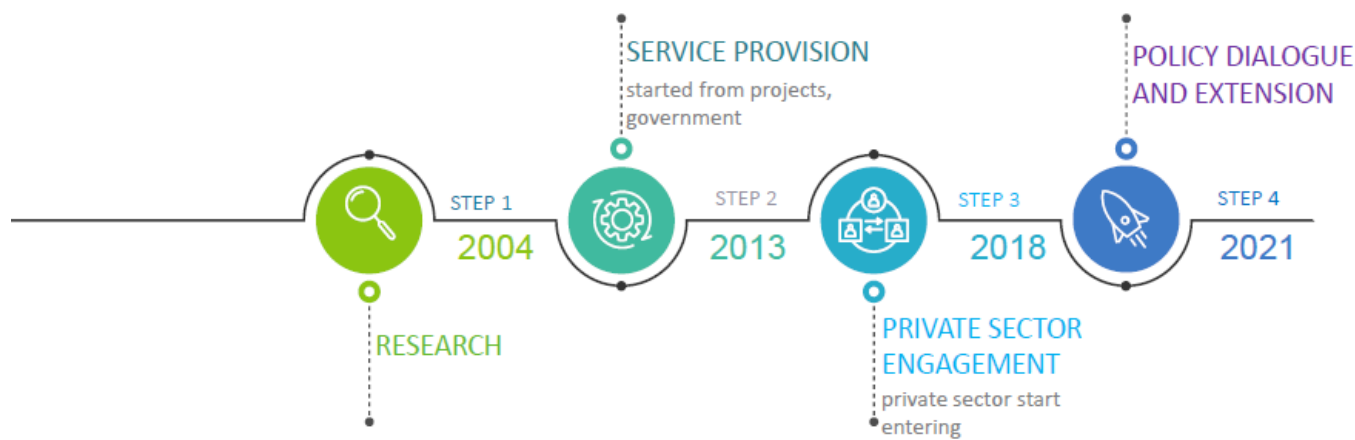
In 2016, the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Sustainable Intensification (Appropriate-Scale Mechanization Consortium, Women in Agriculture Network and the Center of Excellence on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Nutrition - CE SAIN, USAID) was launched extending Sustainable Intensification and CA activities in different agroecosystems of Cambodia. CE SAIN also established a network of Technology Parks with Bos Khnor among them, to further promote these activities. ACTAE/AFD (Towards Agroecological Transition in South-East Asia) and Ecological Intensification and Soil Ecosystem Functioning (EISOFUN, UNCCD/CCCA) are other projects and donor agencies contributing to CA promotion.

In April 2018, The Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM), a regional institution of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), was instrumental in hosting the Regional Workshop on the Role of Mechanization in Strengthening Smallholders' Resilience through Conservation Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific. There were a few other projects that have supported the promotion of CA in Cambodia, namely the Conservation Agriculture Services with a Fee (CASF) and Mekong Inclusive Growth and Innovation Program (MIGIP). Swisscontact ran MIGIP which focussed on engaging the private sector in technologies. CE SAIN runs CASF, in partnership with DAEng, DALRM/CASC/CIRAD and Swisscontact and funds the activities of the different partners. These two important projects have helped to realize the commercialization of CA machinery based on the foundations laid earlier.

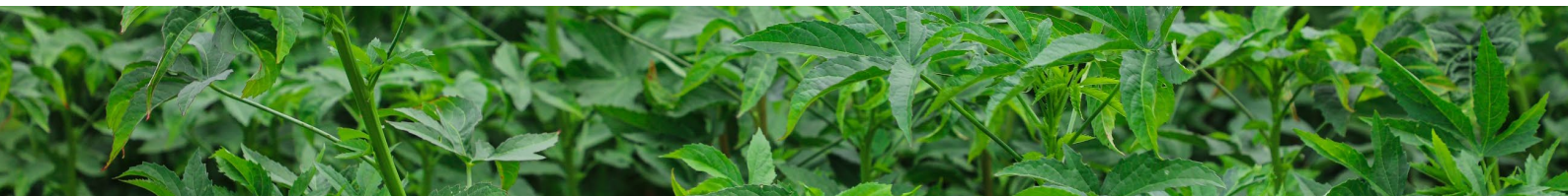
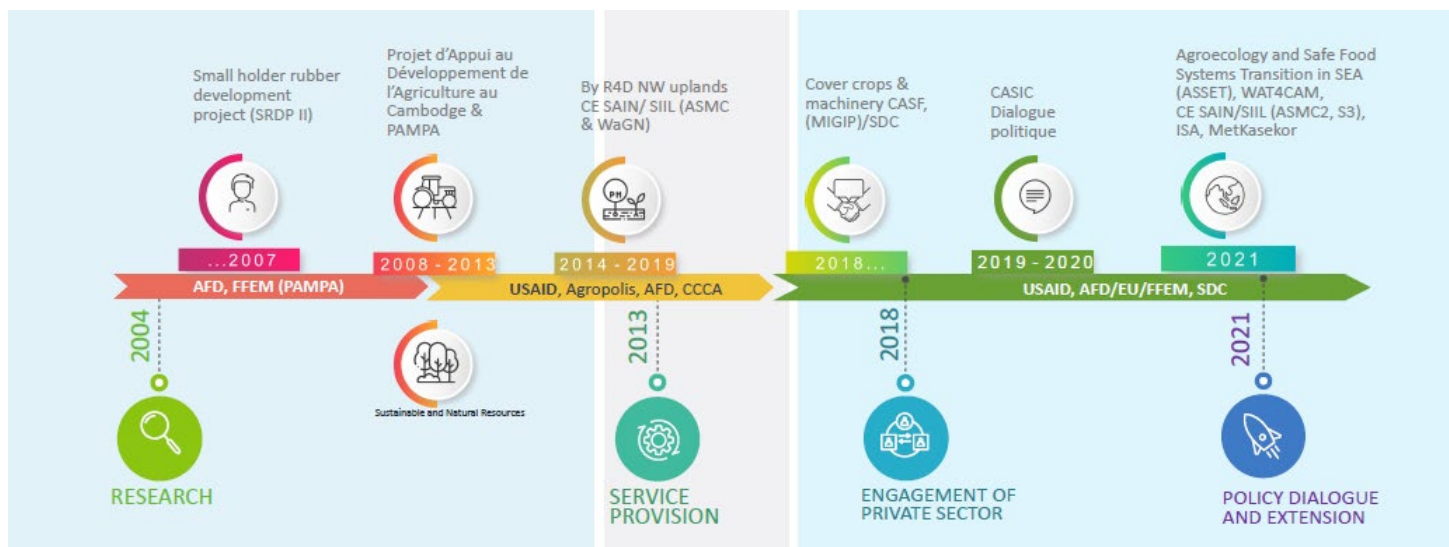




Historical Transition from Research to Development



Different Initiatives towards the Transition





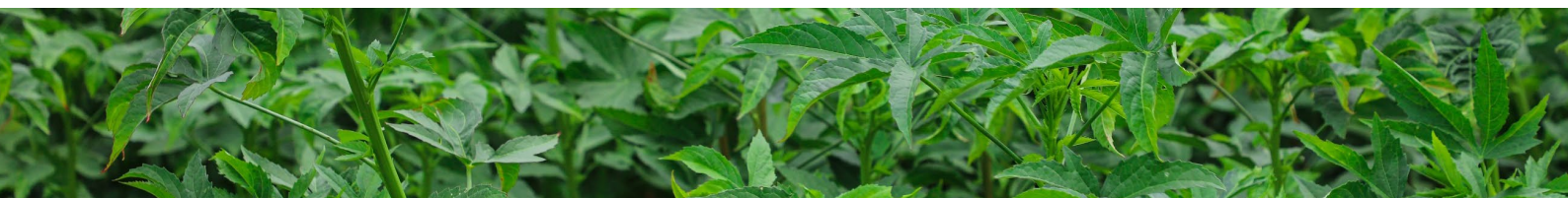
1.4. Overview of *MetKasekor* Product



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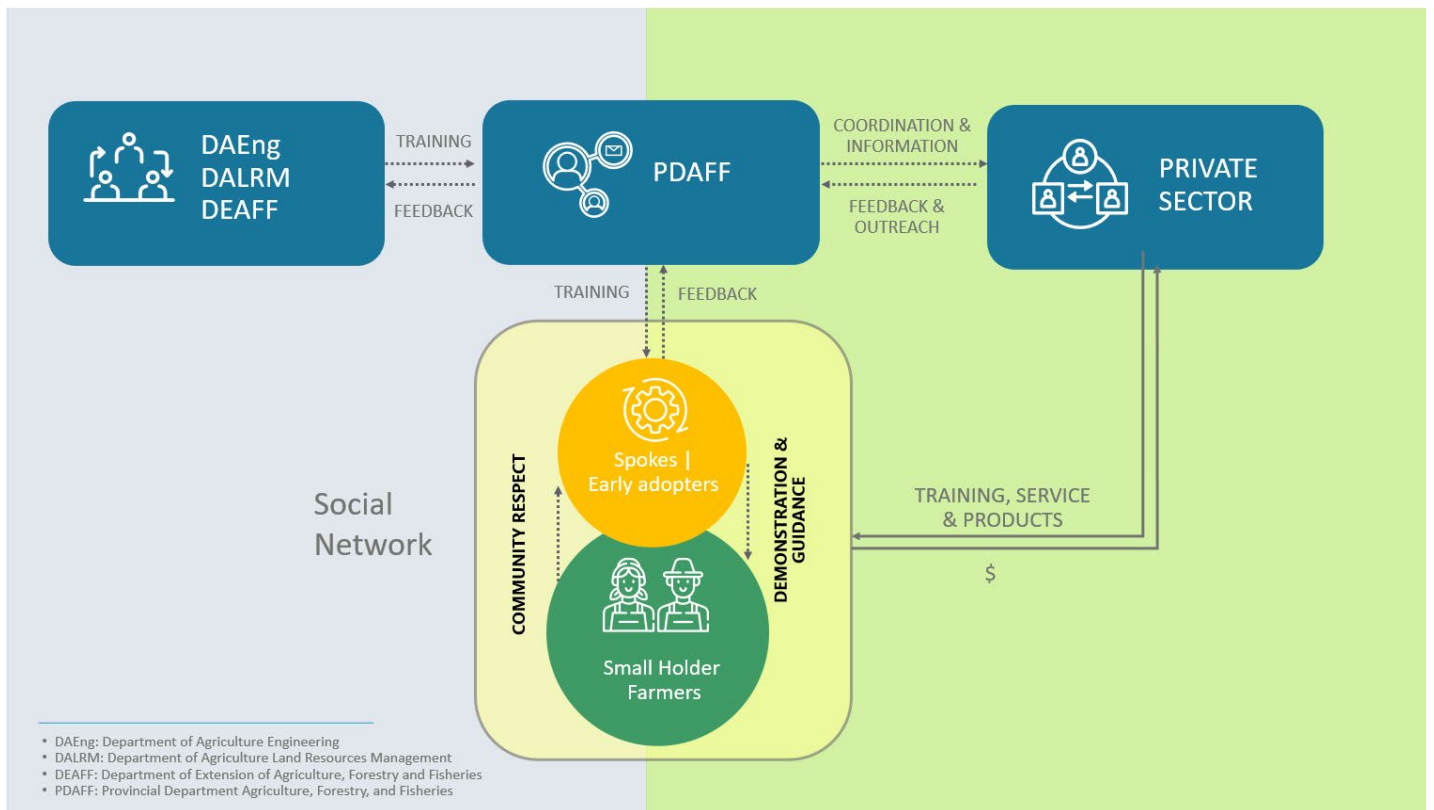
The *MetKasekor* model is an innovative extension model which is promoted and supported by CE SAIN/RUA, CIRAD, Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab/Kansas State University and Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture (ISA)/Swisscontact. The ***MetKasekor*** is the government resource for the future with the intention to improve the public agricultural extension service system in Cambodia. This model is also working for Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification (CA/SI) in Cambodia. *MetKasekor* is a result of ten plus years of dedicated work on research on Conservation Agriculture in Cambodia and extension service models. The model will be piloted in a few provinces in Cambodia by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. *MetKasekor* is being led by the Department of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DEAFF) and is coordinated by Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management (DALRM) and the Department of Agricultural Engineering (DAEng).

Some private sector partners that are engaged in the piloting of the model include Larano, Smart Agro, Neourn and AMK. The operation handbook, training documents have been finalized and will be used while piloting the model. The core implementor under the *MetKasekor* Model is the Provincial Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (PDAFFs) in partnership with the private sector.



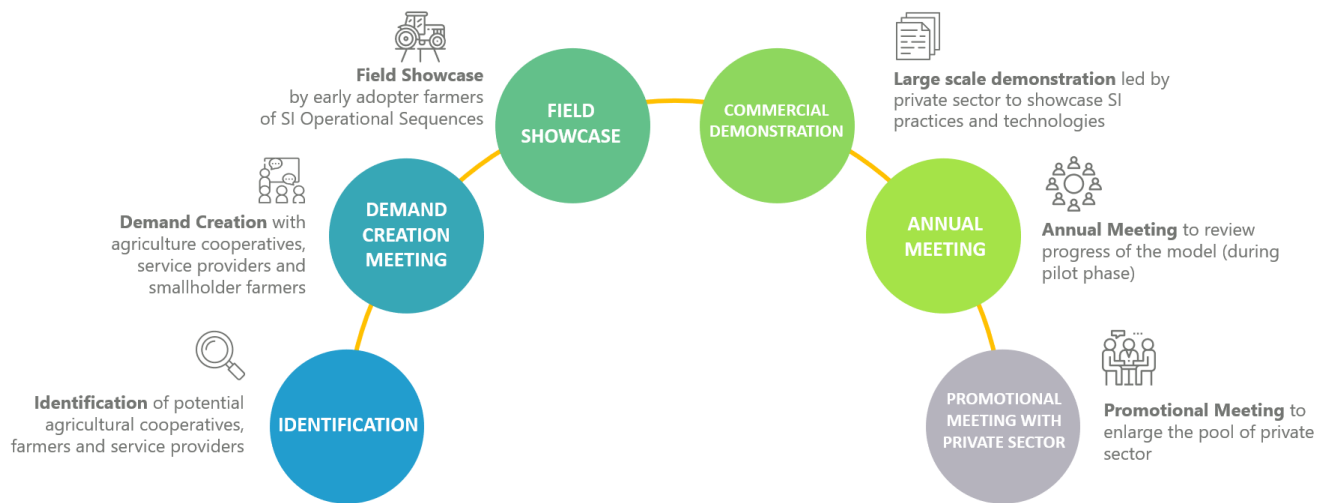


MetKasekor Model



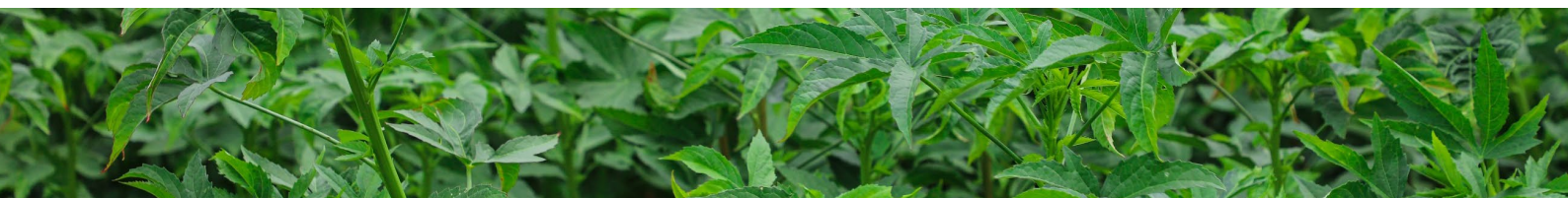


MetKasekor Steps



1.5. Current partners/stakeholder/implementer of the model

It is a model piloted by Department of Agriculture Extension Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Land and Resource Management, and Department of Agriculture Engineering and Royal University of Agriculture, with the support and of CE SAIN, Kansas State University, Swisscontact/ISA, and CIRAD. *MetKasekor* will be piloted involving the private companies such as AMK, Larano, SmartAgro, and Neourn Local Workshop. The core implementor under *MetKasekor* Model is Provincial Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries who will be playing key roles in implementing promotional activities, private sector engagements and extension services support to early adopters, farmers, and service providers.





MetKasekor pilot is promoted, supported and implemented by:



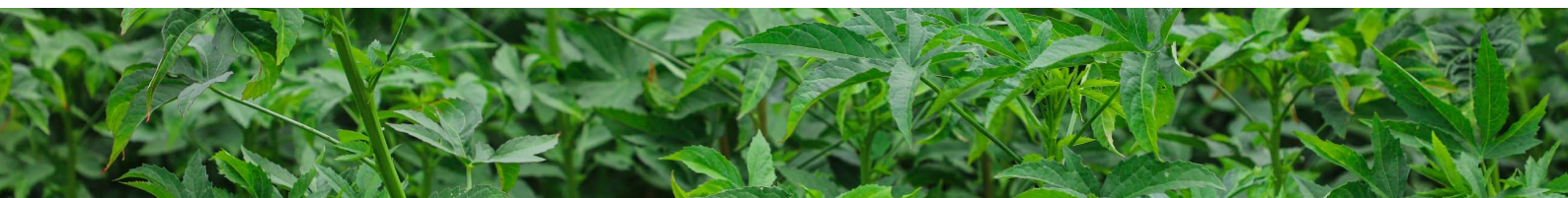
1.6. Up-Coming Activities & Next Steps

✓ **Launching of *MetKasekor* Model**

MetKasekor model will be officially launched soon. It is planned that the launch event will be presided by H.E Minister Veng Sakhon, the Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries. The launch aims to introduce *MetKasekor* Model as an initiative of innovative extension model and promote sustainable agriculture technologies and practices to relevant key stakeholders. This would help attract private sector companies to be part of the *MetKasekor* model and improve the public-private partnership and the development of agriculture sector in Cambodia.

✓ ***MetKasekor* Steering committee**

Internal discussions within the current *MetKasekor* are ongoing to establish a Steering Committee. The *MetKasekor* Steering Committee which will serve as the higher-level entity in monitoring the activities and implementation of *MetKasekor* model.

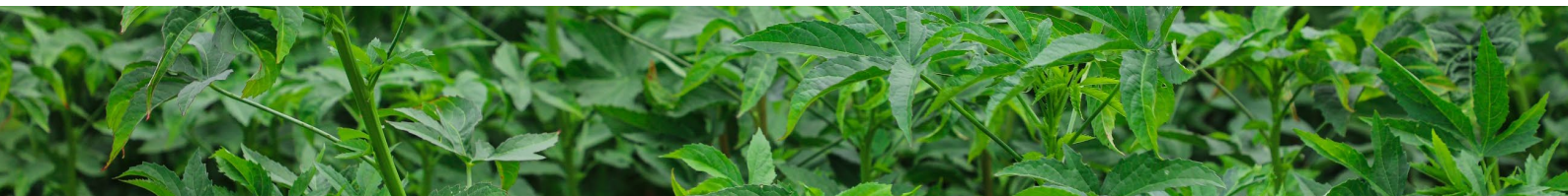




1.7. Contribution by the Model in Agriculture Sector

MetKasekor Model, as an innovative extension model, is looking to promote sustainable agricultural practices through its framework. The model is expected to bring sustainable practices and improve public-private partnership, increase investments from private sector and development of agriculture sector in Cambodia. At the heart of *MetKasekor* Model, it aims to improve farmers accessibility and adoption of more sustainable and appropriate agriculture technologies which in return improve their farming systems and increase income for the farmers.

The poster is divided into two main sections. On the left, there is a photograph of a smiling man with his arms crossed, wearing a light-colored t-shirt. Above the photo is the HUSO logo with the text 'Hub & Spoke' and 'បណ្តាញកសិករ' (Farmer Network). A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the photo. On the right, there is Khmer text: 'មិត្តភក្តិកសិករ' (Farmer Friendship), 'លោកអ្នកអាចប្រឹក្សាយោបល់បច្ចេកទេស លើផលិតកម្មនៅទីនេះដោយផ្ដោតលើ ស្តង់ដារប្រើប្រាស់ដី ថ្នាំ និងគុណភាពកសិផល!' (You can get technical advice on production here, focusing on land use standards, pesticides, and crop quality!). Below this is an image of mangoes, the name 'ដំណាំស្វាយ' (Mango), and the name 'លោក ហាក់ នាយ' (Mr. Hock Noy) with the phone number '097 707 0328'. At the bottom, there are logos for 'MIGIP' (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries) and 'swisscontact'.



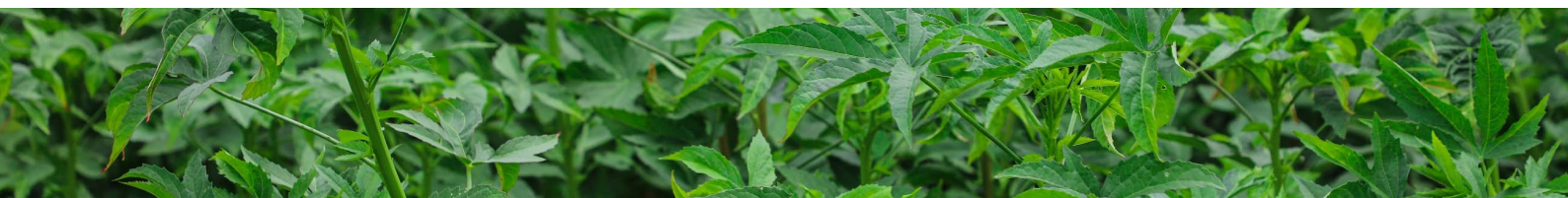


2. *MetKasekor* Consultative Meeting

2.1. Objective of *MetKasekor* Consultative Meeting

MetKasekor model is not officially launched yet, so the official *MetKasekor* working group under MAFF had not been formed yet. However, the work had already started since January 2021, but the whole team had not met each other to understand the full management structure of *MetKasekor*. This consultative meeting aims to:

- ✓ Introduce the whole *MetKasekor* working group team to each other.
- ✓ Introduce the management structure of *MetKasekor* to the whole team.
- ✓ Discussion and recommendation.





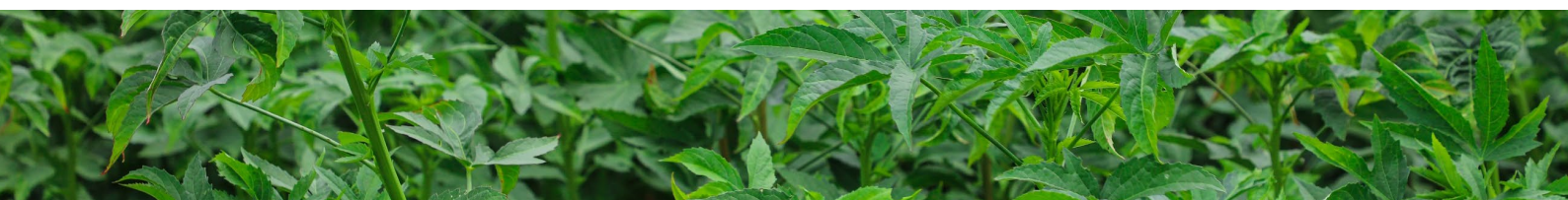
2.2. Agenda of the Meeting

Date : Thursday, 05th July 2021

Time : 9:00am – 11:00am

Location : Online via **Zoom**

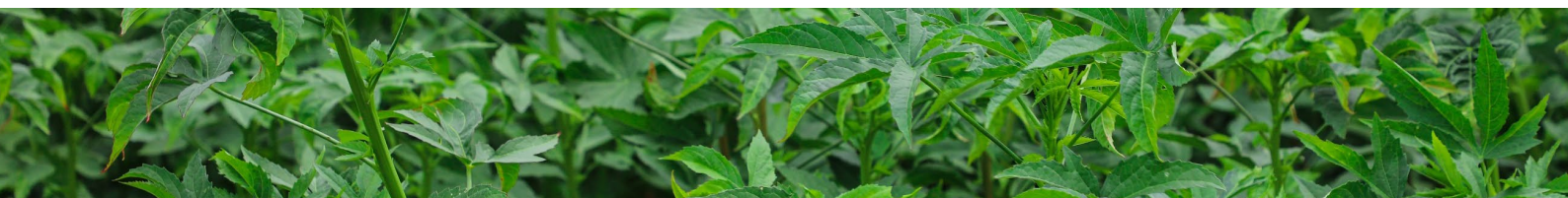
Time	Topic	Description	OIC/Facilitator
9:00 – 9:10	Opening and Introduction to the meeting	To brief: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The objective of the meeting ✓ The agenda and ✓ The expected outcomes 	MC/Organizer
9:10 – 9:30	Welcome remark	Welcome speech to MK team	HE Dr. Chan Saruth MAFF Undersecretary of State
9:30 - 9:45	Introduce MK model development and the promotion of CA	To briefly showcase the history and timeline, milestone, and lesson learnt throughout the development of MK model to pilot the promotion of CA	Dr. Seng Vang Director of Department of Agriculture Land Resources Management – GDA/MAFF
9:45 – 10:00	Introduce the CA technologies promotion under MK Model	To briefly introduce technologies of CA under the implementation of MK model	Mr. Ngin Kosal Director of Department of Agricultural Engineering – GDA/MAFF
10:00 – 10:15	Introduce MK model to be an innovative extension model	To briefly introduce MK and why MK is potential to be an innovative extension model	Dr. Mao Minea Director of Department of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry Fisheries – MAFF
10:15 – 10: 25	Remark from Director of PDAFFs	To invite Director of PDAFFs providing their remarks and interests in <i>MetKasekor</i> Model	Directors of PDAFFs
10:25 – 10:45	Discussion and Recommendation	To discuss if any feedbacks and comments from participants	All Participants
10:45 – 11:00	Closing Remark		HE Dr. Chan Saruth





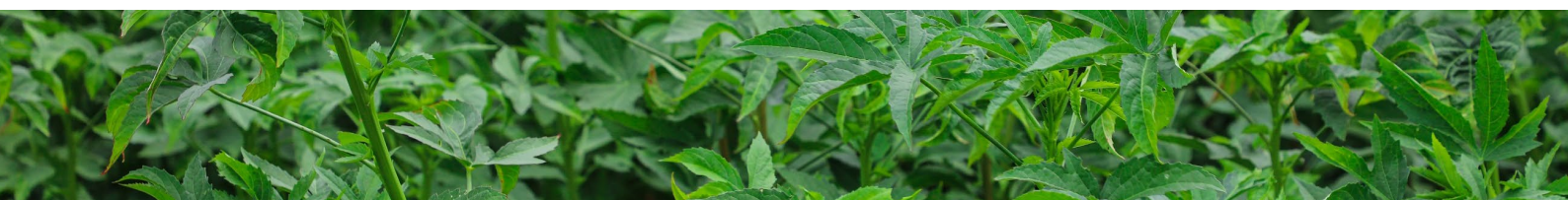
2.3. Participant List

NAME & POSITION		QTTY
A. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries		
1	HE Chan Saruth , Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	1
2	HE Yoeu Asikin , Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	1
3	HE Ngo Bunthan , Rector of the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA)	1
4	Mr. Ho Puthea , Deputy Director of General Directorate of Agriculture, GDA	1
5	Dr. Seng Vang , Director of Agricultural Land Resources Management Department, GDA	1
6	Dr. Mao Minea , Director of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, MAFF	1
7	Mr. Ngin Kosal , Director of Agricultural Engineering Department, GDA	1
8	Mr. Lor Bunna , Director of Cambodian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)	1
9	Dr. Hok Lyda , Director of CE SAIN, RUA	1
10	Mr. Lor Lytour , Dean of Agricultural Engineering Faculty, RUA	1
11	Mr. Chim Vachira , Director of PDAFF in Battambang	1
12	Mr. Poeung Tryda , Director of PDAFF in Preah Vihear	1
13	Mr. Kim Chanmony , Deputy Director of PDAFF in Battambang	1
14	Mr. Theng Dyna , Vice Dean of Agricultural Engineering Faculty, RUA	1
15	Mr. Chea Sokhom , Deputy Director of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, MAFF	1
16	Mr. Heng Choulong , Chief of DEAFF's Agricultural Information Technology Service System Office	1
17	Mr. Ho Doremy , Deputy Director of Agricultural Engineering Department, GDA	1
18	Mr. Nob Loeng , Officer of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, MAFF	1
19	Mr. Srun Borin , Officer of Extension for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, MAFF	1
20	Mr. Dy Raksmeay , Officer of PDAFF in Preah Vihear	1
21	Mrs. Siea Kimnay , Officer of PDAFF in Battambang	1
Sub-total of MAFF		21





B. Private Sector, Service Providers and Development Partners		
1	Mr. Rajiv Pradhan , Country Director (Cambodia) of Swisscontact	1
2	Dr. Kim Yong Hwan , Director of KOPIA Cambodia Center	1
3	Mr. Leng Vira , Coordinator of Conservation Agriculture Service Center, DALRM	1
4	Mr. Sar Veng , Battambang Coordinator of Conservation Agriculture Service Center, DALRM	1
5	Mr. Sous Vuthy , Kampong Cham Coordinator of Conservation Agriculture Service Center, DALRM	1
6	Mr. Pheng Sarith , Sale Manager of Larano Agricultural Machinery Supply	1
7	Mr. Som Sovanda , Sale and Marketing Manager of Smart Agro	1
8	Mr. Premprey Dennamanith , Intervention Lead of Swisscontact	1
9	Ms. Srou Sorkunthika , Intervention Lead of Swisscontact	1
10	Mr. Seng Darabondeth , Intervention Lead of Swisscontact	1
11	Mr. Oeu Vearyda , Senior Communication Officer of Swisscontact	1
12	Ms. Soeun Chakriya , Intervention Officer of Swisscontact	1
13	Mr. Phann Rathanakvichea , Intervention Officer of Swisscontact	1
14	Ms. Rotha Rosa , Intervention Officer of Swisscontact	1
Sub-total of Development Partners		14
Total of Participants		35





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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Any further information, please contact:

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Tel: **085 887 878** or email: hchoulong@gmail.com
- Mr. **Seng Darabondeth**, Intervention Lead, Swisscontact
Tel: 010 541 888 or email: darabondeth.seng@swisscontact.org