



## What is the issue?

Rural farmers can only prosper in the long term by keeping up with the demands of the agricultural market. And the growing effects of climate change may only make their livelihoods harder. SNV's support to this government-managed project equips people with the knowledge they need to compete with confidence.

## Our objective

Improve agricultural productivity by about 15% in five target provinces; ensure business development for farmers; and diversify income sources for rural households (including to non-agricultural activities).

### Results to date: 2015

Prioritizing youth, women and people with limited land ownership, 49,000 direct beneficiaries have been identified so far, and another 40,000 people stand to gain indirectly.

## Our approach

Enhanced skills and access to finance – as well as quality seeds, fertilizers and equipment – all boost production. But without the right knowledge and confidence in their ability to effectively use these assets, smallholder farmers are sometimes reluctant to invest their finances in them.

In order to improve the ability of local entrepreneurs to generate income through agriculture, the Royal Government of Cambodia, SNV and partners are therefore increasing access to farming technology, finance and markets.

SNV's responsibility is not just to ensure that people are given information about agricultural markets, products and techniques; but to guide them in adopting the right knowledge to make use of that information.

We are therefore revising and updating communications and learning ('extension') packages, and work with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to ensure that the dissemination of knowledge is monitored and evaluated for continuous learning. By analysing the flow of knowledge from master trainers down to farmers themselves, we can confirm that knowledge is put to its best use, and identify where things need to change.

In close cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, we also focus on market linkages for non-agricultural topics, gender mainstreaming and behaviour change towards a more balanced diet.

Furthermore, via associations known as Improved Group Revolving Funds (IGRFs), we are linking farmers to market opportunities and empowering them to come up with their own business plans and ideas, equipping them for the changing markets of the future.



*Above: PADEE encourages diversification and innovation, such as testing snail eggs for fertilizer*

The project covers five provinces: Kandal, Kampot, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng and Takeo. It began in July 2012, with SNV entering in early 2013 and involved with the design and implementation throughout.

*The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries manages the project in partnership with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, SNV, iDE and FAO, utilizing grants and loans from IFAD. Work continues until 2018.*

## For more information

**To learn more about SNV and our work in Cambodia, visit our website at [www.snvworld.org/en/cambodia](http://www.snvworld.org/en/cambodia)**

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*Photo page 1: Nicolas Axelrod / Ruom for SNV*

## About SNV worldwide

SNV is a not-for-profit international development organisation. Founded in the Netherlands nearly 50 years ago, we have built a long-term, local presence in 38 of the poorest countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our global team of local and international advisors work with local partners to equip communities, businesses and organisations with the tools, knowledge and connections they need to increase their incomes and gain access to basic services – empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and guide their own development.