



## **Annual report from the board of ADDA - 2008**

### **Introduction**

ADDA (Agricultural Development Denmark Asia) has now entered the 15<sup>th</sup> year of activities. Since the start a lot has happened and the scale of our activities has never been larger. The last year has yet again been a remarkable year for ADDA, where we have achieved lots of positive results together with our partners in Cambodia and Vietnam. In Denmark we have carried out several new activities and reached out to many Danes and informed them about our work and we have even tried with a newspaper discussion article in the largest newspaper in Denmark “Jyllandsposten”. In this annual report we will try to sum up the most important achievements and results in 2008. In ADDA we have a thorough reporting procedure, to the sponsors but also internal. For all projects we write reports on a quarterly and annual basis, which the board and others read with great interest. We follow closely whether the planned activities are carried out and we monitor if the overall objectives are reached. All projects are divided into several work packages that each again is divided into many measurable activities and indicators. This structure and project implementation makes the supervision very easy and this secures that we fast can react in case there is a need to adjustments.

The most used working method by ADDA in our projects is participatory training of poor farmers carried out in practical farmers field schools followed by group formation with focus on marketing etc. Totally we have so far trained around 40.000 farmers in our projects, which all are carried out with local partners, so local capacity are being build up to future locally financed activities. It is very important that the capacity building are combined with practically activities, to secure results right now, but also to secure building of a civil society through our partners.

### **Activities**

The PR work of ADDA is aimed at the members but also at potential members. Since ADDA only exist because it has members, who supports the work, it is an important task to tell about what the projects are all about, and luckily there are many positive results to tell. The most important information sources for the members are the member news letter News and Views, which are being printed twice a year. Also on the homepage ([www.adda.dk](http://www.adda.dk)) we publish news continuously for all interested parties. News and Views are also now being translated to English, since a member have taken the major task of the translation. The English version is only being printed electronic on the homepage, but it is a major advantage towards our staff in Vietnam and Cambodia who now have the option to follow what the members are being informed about the project activities.

The task to get new members is a common task for all board members and we have been out to tell unions of many kinds during the year, ex. Danish Vietnamese Union, retired unions, Agricultural Schools etc. At a part of sessions we have had the ADDA exhibitions with us, but the exhibition has also been displayed at several libraries and have this last year been at 5 different libraries. A special day was the ADDA day the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2008, where 5 of our skilled staff from Vietnam and

Cambodia where participating and demonstrating the farmer field school concept to 50-60 interested. The day was a part of a national wide campaign and it was a pleasant experience for all. As Denmark only pure agricultural NGO we have in ADDA a special interest in presenting our work for the Danish agricultural sector, and in this connection we participated in the AGROMEK fair, the largest agricultural fair in Denmark held in Herning in November. Here there was a very good possibility to tell about and answer questions about ADDA from some of the 70.000 guests at the fair, and this resulted in several new members.

### **Members of ADDA**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2009 ADDA had in total 416 members. Out of this number the largest part of members are private members (174) and family memberships (168). There are 25 members in the student as well as in the company category. The smallest group of our members is retirees with 14 people in total. From January 2008 until now (3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2009), 56 new members signed up. Regularly throughout the year people found interest in our work and signed up for membership. Reasons could among others have been our regularly updated homepage, different activities like participation at AGROMEK, and articles in different newspapers. The average increase of new members from 2000 until 2008 was 31 new members per year. In 2008 we received 44 new members, which is great. It is very important for our organization that we gain the support from our members and from society by annual payment of the membership fee and by getting new members regularly.

## **Cambodia**

### **IWEP-Cambodia**

IWEP project activities commenced in April 2005 and the project was fully operating in June 2005, when most staff was appointed. The Coordinator was appointed by ADDA from January 2005 and the Danida funding was received late March 2005. Provincial and District staff was appointed from late May to the beginning of June. The main duties of the last 2 quarters of 2005 were to plan and execute the IWEP Food Security and Gender Training Programme (Training of Village Extension Workers - TOT).

In general the project implementation over the years has followed the plan stipulated in the Project Document. An External Mid Term Evaluation in 2006 concluded: "That IWEP has made great progress during the time of operation and apart from smaller deviations it is being implemented in very close compliance with the original Project Document". An External Project Evaluation in 2008 recommended that a 2nd Phase of IWEP be implemented. An external impact study was carried out in April 2008, and results from the impact study were reported to Danida May 2008 together with the revised application for IWEP II

In January 2009 the IWEP Phase II, was approved by Danida, with a start 1. April 2009 and terminating 31. March 2012.

*Outputs in IWEP I:* 223 successful FFS in vegetable and small farm animal production were conducted and 6,263 farmers has been trained most of them are women (75%). That is 111,5 % of the total 200 planned FFS. The adoption rate of disciplines learnt at the FFS is very high. There is a significantly increased agricultural production, both small farm animals and vegetable in the project villages.

An impact study was carried out in March 2008 by an external consultant. It showed that the project has great positive impact on livelihood, agriculture, economic, social impacts as well as environment impact.

61,775, (123% of total expected vaccinations) farm animals were vaccinated against contagious diseases or otherwise treated resulting in a much lower death rate than in other villages. 87 SHGs (women farmers credit groups/self help groups) in 87 villages (87% of total planned) were formed with 969 members, 92% are women. Each group has prepared a business plan. A number of the younger groups are not yet sustainable and need more time and attention from the project. Group saving in SHGs has been 29.331 \$, and matching grant allocated 22.215 \$ in the period up to December 2008 within the 87 SHGs. Loan used by the group members has been 40.400 \$ in the period, and has been returned to the groups.

**Vegetable production:** Data analysis from the IWEP I project records indicates that vegetable production and productivity in the target areas have increased remarkably as compared to the baseline in 2005, and also individual interviews with vegetable producing farmers show this tendency. The level of use of pesticide and chemical fertilizer was significantly reduced.

**Livestock production:** The majorities of target communities are moving away from subsistence agriculture and now focus more on a production meeting the demands the local markets. This is mainly due to an increase in number of animals especially pigs and chickens, more targeting on vaccination and proper treatment, and production of local feed, reducing the degree of dependency on external inputs. Focus group discussions (FGD) with FFS Alumni and individual interviews with livestock producing farmers indicate that livestock production has increased since the beginning of IWEP I. The majority of farmers who raised pigs were able to produce local feeds like soybeans, cassava roots and leaves, silages to feed their animals, thereby increasing production and farm profitability.

The adoption rate of disciplines learnt at the FFS is very high and Field Days conducted, after each FFS, on the farmers own fields have spread the knowledge to other farmers in the village and to surrounding villages. Overall the extension messages and the project knowledge have spread to at least 11000 families in the 5 poorer districts of Siem Reap province.

*An Impact Study of IWEP I* was, as mentioned above, carried out in April 2008 by an external consultant. A few results may be mentioned: Agricultural production of the Farmer Field School graduates has risen significantly compared to before the farmer joined the FFS. Income of the farmers has also risen significantly. In many cases beneficiary farmers of IWEP 1 may now be categorized in quintal 3 rising from quintal 4 of a scale from 1-5 where q5 is the poorest. The environmental effects of the project have been positive. The use of poisonous chemicals has been reduced significantly in favors of organic growing methods and the use of less dangerous and recognized pesticides

*Preparation for IWEP II:* The activities up to the end of 3rd quarter of 2008 were to conduct Farmer Field Schools and subsequently to encourage FFS alumni to form micro credit groups or Self Help Groups. Activities in this present reporting quarter (Q16) have been to conclude IWEP 1 and to prepare the implementation of IWEP 2. Conduction of the 'old' type of Farmer Field Schools is now being finalized and the subsequent Integrated FFSs will be market based (linked to a market) and IWEP 2 will, apart from consolidating its activities in the present 100 villages, also be implemented in 30 new villages involving the poorest quintal of the population. The project will, as a new policy in IWEP 2, try to link SHGs with Micro Finance Institutions instead of providing matching grants to self help group savings.

*The cooperation with our partner NGO Srer Khmer* was quite smooth during IWEP 1 and Srer Khmer is now able to stand on its own feet as SK have contracts with donors to operate about 10 different projects in Cambodia.

The two partners Srer Khmer and ADDA received valuable support and cooperation throughout the period from both Department of Agriculture and Department of Women's Affairs.

*Networking:* IWEP is networking with a large number of organizations and projects in Cambodia: DANISH RED CROSS, CARITAS, ADRA, FAO, ECOSORN (EU), CADF, GAD-Gender and STAR KAMPUCHEA, READA, ZOA, Development, Seila's Provincial Office, just to mention some.

*Other activities:* A study tour to Vietnam was conducted from May 25th to May 30th 2008 by Agricultural Development Denmark-Asia (ADDA) in order to strengthen the capacities of IWEP staff in technical aspects related to vegetable and livestock production. The objectives of this study tour were to learn about vegetable production and pig production. Moreover we visited Seed Company and Bio Company which producing feeds and medicine for animal and aquatic. Twenty participants joined in this study tour including ADDA Coordinator and 16 IWEP staff and 1 volunteer and 2 staff from Cambodia Agribusiness Development Facility (CADF) ADDA and Srer Khmer staff also has been trained on Project Management as well as at a ToT on Marketing Farmer Field School.

In country study tours to other relevant NGOs or organizations was carried out and is considered an important type of intervention for the IWEP staff to become up-to-date of what is happening as well as to maintaining an important network.

10 girls from poor background were given a full scholarship to study at Prek Leap National School of Agricultural for a Bachelor Degree in Agriculture (a partner of ADDA from 1996 to 2005). The students are doing well and are now (January 2009) in their fourth year of study and are preparing their final thesis.

*The IWEP II project starts officially 1. April 2009.* Main activities during the first quarter of 2009 were self help group strengthening and preparation for IWEP II including a review of the selection of new villages, baseline questionnaire development and tests of the capacity of District Facilitators as well as Village Extension Workers. The final Steering Committee Meeting was carried out in IWEP I.

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### **EU-Cambodia, ADDA-ECOSORN Project in Cambodia, 2008 – 2010:**

In November 2007 ADDA signed a contract with EU to conduct the project: Economic and Social Re-launch of the Northwest Provinces of Cambodia (ADDA-ESO) starting 1. January 2008.

The synergy effects between the two projects are clear and useful for beneficiaries and staff of both IWEP and ADDA-ESO. Economically and financially the two projects are implemented separately. Agriculture is the main source of food for Cambodian people and provides employment for more than 80% of the population. Crop and livestock farming is a major contributor to the economy, accounting for nearly 20% of GDP in 2005, while rice, fisheries and aquaculture contribute an additional 3-4%. A significant proportion of the production is consumed by farming households themselves, so assuring food security is critically important to them. Poverty is concentrated among the rural poor and urban poor people who have left rural areas to seek work. Therefore, increasing

agricultural productivity and total value-added production offers an effective and potentially rapid means to alleviate poverty and enhance the quality of rural life.

The three target provinces for ECOSORN, occupy the northwest region of Cambodia and the poverty is high there because the agricultural production such as rice, non-rice crops, livestock as well as aquaculture are low.

To operate the project smoothly, ADDA has employed all required staff and set up the offices in each province as well as at district level as needed. 21 staffs (Battambang, Lot 1), 20 staffs (Banttey Meanchey, Lot 2) , and 20 staffs (Siem Reap, Lot 3) were trained in their respective fields of work and are now properly working with high respect to the contractual manual as well as the project implementation procedures.

Full Training of Agricultural Extension Workers (AEW): ADDA was conducted at a TNA for 14 AEWs in Batch 2 out of 24 (lot 1), 14 AEWs in Batch 2 out of 23 (lot 2), 14 AEWs in Batch 2 out of 21 (lot3). A series of trainings including preliminary training, formal training and on job training were provided to them (AEWs). The preliminary training was focusing on participatory extension methods and how to collect information and included participatory description and diagnosis of pilot farms, setting objectives, and elaborating pilot farmer groups and overall action plans. Formal training was mainly focusing on Improved Production Technologies Packages (IPTPs). AEWs are working closely with IRDM staff in all target villages as part of on-job training.

ADDA considers the employment and in-service training of all required staff a major achievement, and it may be reported that all staff are performing their duties in conformity with their contracts and Terms of Reference.

Regarding Village Community Hall Construction; ADDA, in collaboration with the AEWs, are supervising the Village Committees in mobilizing the villagers for the construction. ADDA has provided detailed plans for construction and materials to ECOSORN.

Training of Pilot Farmers: Four hundred and eighty of pilot farmers including 200 farmers in 10 villages (Batch 1) and 280 farmers in 14 villages (Batch 2) were completed (lot 1), Training of Pilot Farmers: Four hundred and sixty of pilot farmers including 180 farmers in 9 villages (Batch 1) and 280 farmers in 14 villages (Batch 2) were completed. (lot 2) and Training of Pilot Farmers: Four hundred and twenty of pilot farmers including 140 farmers in 7 villages (Batch 1) and 280 farmers in 14 villages (Batch 2) were completed (lot 3). Demonstrations of animals, rice, fish and family vegetable home gardening are being set up with pilot farmer's farms as well as at other farmers. The Development of Rice Seed Production in the target area is a part of improvement of the farming environment and service. Two rice seed production groups were established with 36 farmers (6 women) in two villages who transplanted rice on 20.87 ha area and they are now are in the process of harvesting the rice. The expected yield is around 3.8 ton/ha. This means that the project should be able to supply more than 72 ton of improved rice seed for rice farmers for next season. This may also be considered as a major achievement. (lot 1). Two rice seed production groups were established with 34 farmers including 8women farmers in 2 associations who transplanted rice on 16.4 ha area and they are now are in the process of harvesting the rice. The expected yield is around 2.5 ton/ha. This means that the project should be able to supply about 41 ton of improved rice seed for rice farmers for next season. This may also be considered as a major achievement (lot 2). Two rice seed production groups were established with 40 farmers in two villages who transplanted rice on 18.6 ha area and they are now are in the process of harvesting the rice. The expected yield is around 2.5 ton/ha. This means that the project should be able to supply more than 45 ton of improved rice seed for rice farmers for next season. This may also be considered as a major achievement. (lot 3).

App. Twenty four Village Animal Health Workers (VAHWs) were selected and 10 VAHWs in Batch 1 were provided refresher training. For Batch 2, the training will be provided accordingly. (all three lots).

So far ADDA it may be reported that the implementation of the IRDM activities is proceeding smoothly with effective and timely planning, however, we have faced two minor constrains, the first one was a delay of the construction of Village Community Hall due to late delivery for supplying of construction materials and we have informed that the quality of materials is poor. The second constraint is lack of initiative and support from ECOSORN in family fish pond digging and enlargement of ponds.

Finally it may be concluded that ADDA-ESO is now very well established both administratively and technically in the three provinces. Some district offices still need to be formally established at District Agricultural Offices, but staffs are already operating from the office. In some cases the ADDA-ESO is not located at the DAO office but at a privately rented location.

The ECOSORN strategy for activities is followed and is implemented in the field and ADDA is grateful for the cooperation and look forward future cooperation and support.

The audit reports - of the Interrim reports for all three lots - of the ADDA-ESO EU-project are audited out by Angkor Certified Accountant, Phnom Penh, for 16th. November 2007 to 31th. May 2008, and from 1th. June to 1th. December 2008. The reports are approved by EU-commission in Bangkok.

## **Vietnam**

### **Legal Aid to the rural population (VLA-project)**

The project was approved in December 2007 by the Danish Embassy, and immediately after the procedures for approval by the Vietnamese Authorities was initiated. The project was sent to Ministry of Planning & Investment, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Finance and PACCOM for their comments and concerns. The project was defended at a meeting at the MPI on the 11<sup>th</sup> march 2008 and the official approval of the project was issued on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008 – and the opening ceremony took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008. The first transfer of funds took place and the detailed planning of activities started immediately after. This entails that the project has been implementing activities from 1<sup>st</sup> may 2008.

All project organization procedures, incl. nomination of staff and managers took place and is all settled. The project infrastructure, incl. the legal aid centres, staffing of the centres, the collaborators working in the field, the financial flow etc. have all been organized during 2008 and is all in place by now. The project is implemented smoothly and according to the intentions. The planned activities are likely to be achieved by the end of the project.

The first project year has already made the project visible in the provinces and is appreciated by the provincial authorities. The project initiated the planned survey in the three target provinces in order to clarify the peoples understanding of the legal issues and their need for assistance. The main conclusion of the surveys, which included 400 interviewee, were that people (97%) are very interested in getting more legal information in general and that they would like to get more information on the current planning and policies issued by government and provincial authorities. They are that they are willing to participate in the mobile legal clinics, and that they need assistance on various legal matters. First of all there is a general interest in land laws (47%) marriage and family laws (46%) the civil code (33%) and the criminal laws (28%).

The project has already improved the opportunities to access legal and information for the target population by establishment of a network of 54 locally based collaborators who actively visit the villages and support the population in the topics that the villagers find important.

Further to the network of collaborators the project has established one consulting law centre in each province, in which the target population can obtain legal assistance through advises or through printed information.

Finally, the mobile legal clinic program was started during 2008. Initially 9 mobile clinics were conducted as pilot legal clinics with the purpose of adjusting the activity before scaling up. After adjusting the program another 39 mobile clinics were conducted with a participation of app. 2,400 people.

The audit report of VLA-project is carried out by KPMG, and approved by The Embassy of Denmark.

### **Community Development among Ethnic Minorities in Northern Vietnam**

The collaboration between the ADDA Hanoi office and the PMU at DEMMA is considered smooth and very constructive. The MoU signed by ADDA and VNFU is still valid and provides a profound basis for collaboration.

VNFU is most certainly capable of organizing the participatory development according to the introduced approach which is the FFS followed by the group formation. The project has trained 7 VNFU staff and 71 trainers through the ToT. By the end of the ToT the project signed employment contracts with each of the trainers, ensuring that they would conduct FFS with the project, for at least 1.5 years. This contract expired in 2008 and only 4 of the 71 trainers have stopped. All 4 trainers who are now missing were from Lai Chau. Still working are the remaining 67 trainers and the 7 VNFU staff who were also trained.

The methodology to increase farmer's knowledge is to conduct FFS. The maize FFS are by far the most dominant kind of FFS. A few FFS are conducted in vegetables, but only when the assisting supervisor from the IPM programme agrees to actually conduct the vegetable FFS. By the end of 2008 we have successfully conducted 396 maize FFS, 8 Vegetable FFS, 10 Training FFS as part of the two ToTs and 2 seasons with one long term Agro-forestry FFS. This makes it a total of 415 FFS with participation of app. 12,450 farmers. Furthermore, 18 of the maize FFS on sloping land have had additional 3-4 lessons on establishment of AF hedgerows.

After finalizing the FFS, some of the FFS graduates choose to form a group. By the end of 2008 a total of 156 groups were established. Several of these groups are now having their business operating. The FU / group trainer has a crucial role in helping the group develop a successful enterprise. Establishment of income generation units has been treated as a process with a number of steps and guidance of the members through the process. It has been considered important that - as far as possible - each group identifies plans, carries out and evaluates its own activities. This is essential for group development and self-reliance. The important role of the FU has been to encourage group activities, especially in the initial stages.

The number of participants in each group varies from 8 – 16. Topics are primarily small Livestock (pig and chicken) and maize, peanut and vegetables. A few groups are doing handicrafts. The characteristics of the groups are that all are aiming at business one way or the other. All groups are focusing on enhanced income for the group's members, will plan the production together and support each other in marketing.

The groups are heavily depending on the trainers to facilitate the activities and to get the groups organized correctly. Therefore there is still a big difference in efficiency from one province to the other.

### **Developing a Framework for Production and Marketing of Organic Agriculture in Vietnam**

The discussions between ADDA and the VNFU on an additional agreement on the management of the project were finally concluded early 2008. The signing of this agreement was delayed a few times because the VNFU needed additional time to come to an internal agreement on its position. With the roles and responsibilities of both the VNFU and ADDA clearer, the project operated much more smoothly during 2008 than in previous years. The agreement also resulted in some changes in the project set up. Besides the CPMU and the six provinces directly under their management, two Farmer Unions at provincial and 2 FU at commune level now directly participate in the project through a separate agreement. Instead of six provinces, the project collaborates now with the Farmer Unions in nine provinces. In addition, the project has signed similar agreements with one Tea Company and one local NGO for training of farmers from their respective networks.

The development of the organic production concept has been the major focus of the project during 2005 – 2007, with a few activities continuing through 2008. By the end of 2008 these remaining activities had also completed which means that the Output 2 has now been finalized.

During 2008 the project organised three ToTs. The first TOT on crops at Xuan Mai College opened on March 3 and had 33 participants. Participants came from Hanoi, Hoa Binh, Ha Tinh and Lao Cai. The second TOT on crops started on August 25 and finished on January 10, 2009. A total of 34 participants completed the course. A special TOT on organic fish started in Hai Phong on June 16 and finished at the end of December. The TOT started with 15 participants (mostly from Hai Phong but also from Bac Ninh and Tuyen Quang) but during the course four participants dropped out.

The graduates from the first TOT in Xuan Mai started FFS in their home provinces in September or October. A total 25 FFS were conducted during 2008, with an total of 630 farmers initially participating. Implementation of the FFS in most places was disrupted by severe rains and crops in the study fields of several FFS died. Fortunately, in most places it was possible to replant the crops. In Thanh Xuan commune (Soc Son, Hanoi) an existing group of 10 IPM farmers (previously trained through the ADDA-supported vegetables IPM project) decided to convert to organic.

The CPMU is leading the process to set up a National Association for Organic Agriculture. After two meetings in 2007, the CPMU organized a third meeting on the establishment of such an association in June 2008. Based on the advice from a resource person from the Ministry of Home Affairs a "Mobilisation Committee" was set up to prepare the establishment for the Association. Mr Chieu (the former VNFU chairman) agreed to chair this committee. The committee met once during Quarter 4 and agreed on a list of steps needed to start the formal registration process.

During 2008 several local NGOs contacted ADDA for information on organic agriculture and to discuss possible collaboration. One of these NGOs, Action for the City, secured funding from the Australian Embassy for a small project on organic vegetables production and marketing in Hanoi. A formal agreement on collaboration between Action for the City and ADDA was signed in support of this project.

### **Tanzania.**

ADDA carried out the first survey in Tanzania on a fact finding trip in the fall 2006. Preparations for an revised application has been the main activity in 2008. ADDA has forwarded an application for Danida in February 2009, and an approval from Danida is expected in May 2009.

**Thanks**

The many members of ADDA, our donors: Danida and EU and The Embassy of Denmark in Hanoi, Vietnam, our cooperative partners, employees and the many people in the villages, we hereby thank for another good year, for financial support, and a good year which we would not have been without.

Soeren T. Joergensen  
On behalf of the board of ADDA,  
Chairman, ADDA.

Kaloe 18th May 2009