



# IMPROVEMENT OF LIVELIHOOD AND FOOD SECURITY PROJECT (ILF-PROJECT) IN KRATIE, TBOUNG KHUM AND KAMPONG THOM PROVINCES

## Unlocking rural potential

A total of 3,148 of the poorest households in Cambodia have been provided with land for residential purposes and family farming in Kratie, Tbong Khum and Kampong Thom Provinces through a government initiative.

While this is a promising first step, many recipients have not yet been able to use all the allocated land, since some of it is not yet ready for agricultural use. These peoples' food security and livelihoods is precarious as they have very limited access to sustainable social and economic services. Additionally, many land recipient households run the risk of losing their property rights by failing to satisfy the criteria to apply for the title of the land they live on or the agricultural land allocated to them.

GIZ's Improvement of Livelihood and Food Security (ILF) Project, partnered with the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC), to help land recipient households building their livelihood on newly acquired land. The project works directly with the residents, assisting them with preparing the land for farming, improving the soil conditions, and putting it to agricultural use. The project provides knowledge and skills that help to improve the families' food security through diversification and specifically adapted land use.

Project name	Improvement of Livelihood and Food Security (ILF) Project
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Cambodia (Kratie, Tboung Khum and Kampong Thom Provinces)
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction

developing new partnerships between administration, civil and private actors.

ILF-Project uses a multi-level approach, promoting cooperation between the actors involved. The project partners with the MLMUPC in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture. The main implementing organizations are the cross-sectorial provincial and district working groups, chaired by provincial governors.

Commune councils and community-oriented groups at village level play the most important role in strengthening social cohesion. Self-help groups implement measures to develop the capacity of the community which will be a major contribution to sustainability. Throughout the process, they receive technical support from provincial and district working groups.

The project cooperates closely with two BMZ funded programs already in progress: Contributing to securing land rights and permanent land titles for recipients and GIZ's Regional Economic Development Programme (RED) Green Belt in Siem Reap province.

## Partnering to improve lives

The project's three goals include establishing food security, securing a basis for long-term agricultural production, and



Photo left: ILF Project Launch & Planning Workshop Presided by H.E Senior Minister IM CHHUNLIM, Minister of Ministry of Land Management Urban Planning and Construction.

Photo right: Rice distribution in Dar settlement area (Kratie Province).



German Ambassador and community-based mission in Sambok and Chang Krang for Inspiring sustainability.



Discussion on home gardening and food security with a household at Sambok-Changkrang settlement area in Kratie Province.

## Prioritising food security for land recipients

The project takes measures to safeguard the everyday survival needs of the aid recipients by analyzing their food aid requirements from the beginning. In addition, ILF will provide nutrition and agricultural education to improve residents' food choices and access. The program promotes short- and medium-term measures effective in small-scale farming, and supports sustainable and appropriate methods of cultivation to increase agricultural production and improve the use of food. Recipients will receive assistance in preparing their agricultural land. To this end, the project will initiate multi-stakeholder processes in all target areas. Together with the MLMUPC, the program will draft instructions for integrating these measures into development and investment plans.

## Effecting change in communities

The ILF project has officially launched and designed its 3-year operational plan (2015 to 2017) involving a strong team comprising of national and subnational working groups and also has managed to build an excellent relation through team building with partners from ministry of interior, ministry of agriculture, and ministry of rural development. The baseline of 889 households in 3 targeted provinces made us to gain a better understanding of the situation and to gather essential base information on various indicators used to be "food for thought" during the planning.

Presently, the project has immediately supported 50 tons of milled rice to the needy groups (349 households) at new sites in Kratie and Kampong Thom. This households needed to fulfill the criteria in preparing home garden and agriculture land for farming, as

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well being new settlers. Additionally 16 communal food security interest groups qualified to be supported. Moreover, the 4 new communities at new sites were supported with 8 hand tractors in March 2015 to assist the settling in coming from their old villages to the new settlement. With this we responded to the urgent request of community members to use hand tractors as well as emergency support like taking serious sick land recipients in particular women and children to health post and centers that are far away from the settlement, during the rainy season when roads become impassable for normal cars.

Additionally, the land recipient community in Othom village, Kampong Thom province has been taken through the process of selecting their village committee based on the principal of ILF idea to form 16 communal food security interest groups in March 2015. Each communal food security interest group has received milled rice to the tune of 600 to 700 Kg per group according to the number of members. This has been strongly supporting the community based initiatives to access food for 300 households staying in this new settlement of the Tipto commune.

The establishment of community based organizations has been initiated since May 2015 by community members and village authorities to support the village administration and communities to formulate proposals for integration into commune investment plans and monitor the fulfillment of contractual obligations of land recipients. On 12 May 2015, there were seven land recipients (4 females, 3 males) elected to be the representatives of the community committee. Mrs. Peng Srey Hort has been elected to be the chief of land recipient committee for the community of Othom village. The whole process of setting up the community committee structure has been recognized by commune councils, district and provincial authorities.

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