

Progress Report

Cumulated from January 2013 until end Q4-2015

CISOM Project, CISU

Reporting to 30June, 2015

Acronyms

ADDA	Agricultural Development Denmark Asia
BS	Banteay Srei Organization
CC	Commune Council
CIDO	Community- based Integrated Development Organization
CIP	Community Investment Program
CISOM	Empowerment of Civil Societies in Oddar Meanchey Province
CP	Community Professional
DKK	Danish Kroner
DF	District Facilitator
DST	District Supervising Team
GTZ	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
IFFS	Integrated Farmer Field Schools
INFOSE	Innovative Approaches to Food Insecurity
KBA	Khmer Buddhist Association
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MWA	Ministry Women's Affairs
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RCEDO	Rural Community and Environment Development Organization
READA	Rural Economics and Agricultural Development Agent
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
TOT	Training of Trainers
UCW	Urban and Peri-Urban Community Worker
USD	U.S. Dollar
VEW	Village Extension Worker

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ADDA CAMBODIA MANAGEMENT

Progress summary

CISOM (2013-2015) - Empowerment of Civil Societies in Oddar Meanchey Province was approved by CISU in December 2012 and was officially started 1st of January 2013. The cooperation agreements with all partners have been signed and annual work plans and budgets have been developed. Local partner staff have been trained on financial and administrative procedures including the Quick Book program. All financial and administrative mechanisms have been set up and are operating smoothly.

The Inception Workshop was held in March 2013 under the great honour of H.E. Deputy Provincial governor and Chief of Provincial Development Council with the participation of line departments, local authorities, NGOs and other institutions working in Oddar Meanchey Province. Training of Trainers (ToT) on Food Security and development of Civil Society Organizations was conducted from April to June 2013. Twenty four trainees attended the training including 20 Community Professionals and 4 staff from the Provincial Agriculture Department and Provincial Women's Affairs Department. TOT was successfully implemented according to evaluations by staff, partners and local authorities.

Target villages and communes have been reviewed. 54 villages were originally selected for project implementation. Additionally 13 villages have been included in order to fulfil selection criteria regarding beneficiaries and availability of land for vegetable production. The project is covering 13 communes and implemented in 67 villages.

Twenty Community Professionals (CPs) were selected for Training of Trainers (ToT) in May 2013 (10 female CPs). Most CPs have a basic school education – between grades 6 to 12. Their background is village livestock agents and/or members of village development committees.

A baseline survey covering 54 villages' status has been prepared. Data analysis and a report are available from ADDA Dropbox CISOM files. Selection criteria's for beneficiaries, villages and lists of ID Poor1& Poor2 have been updated.

80 FFSs were successfully implemented. 2154 farmers participated. Farmers have adopted improved agricultural techniques.

It is noticed that the numbers of SHG who have established/improved their home gardens and have sold vegetables. The family selling products were increased from previous quarter (349 SHGs members) to 420 SHGs in this quarter. Additionally, they can earn up to 22,300 USD which is accumulated of income for this quarter is 140,708 USD. Approximately 65% of the FFS alumni continue to cultivate vegetables. 10 % have converted from home garden vegetable production to semi-commercial vegetable production. 69% of the families in FFS (Batch 1, 2 and 3) have a small production of egg for hatching, consumption and sale. Output/input ratio increased for farmers in their production of vegetables, cash crops, rice and small livestock.

80 SHGs involving a total of 2,042 villagers (1,604 females) were formed during FFS. All SHGs have elected a SHG committee leader, an assistant and a treasurer. 80 SHGs have agreed on internal leadership, democratic principles, structure, procedure and simple protocols. Most recently formed SHGs are in the process of developing their constitution, activity plans and the group vision with the assistance from the CPs and the projects staff. CPs attends all SHG meetings to facilitate the development of strong SHG societies. Up to this quarter, 80 SHGs were registered CBO at commune level successfully.

5 SHGs received funding support from the FAO/ Malis project (3 SHG/CIDO, 2 SHG/RCEDO). Few well performing SHG member received funds up to 200 USD to purchase agricultural input at a trade exhibition organised by the FAO project. SHG members have to pay back 60 % of the funds received to the SHG during the rice harvest season.

67 Field days were conducted involving 4,266 direct and indirect beneficiaries, including 2,842 female. Key techniques and guidelines of FFS and SHG formation are followed. Furthermore, 7 project staff, 5 staff members of PDA, PDoWA and 21 CPs participated during a CISOM training course on human right, land right and advocacy skill. The training was conducted by the professional trainer from legal NGO, Legal Aid of Cambodia. It is noticed that CISOM project staff and CPs improved their knowledge on the above-mentioned subjects, they are more confident to identify the

issues in question/of conflict, and they know where to get support when they face the challenges with the authorities. Additionally, the representatives from PDA and PDoWA acquired more knowledge and they are able – as well as - willing to share with local communities in ODM.

An advocacy road map for the CISOM project has been elaborated (Annex III) with inputs from partners, Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC), local authorities, legal advisors and other project stakeholders. Local partner staff and CPs understand and acknowledge CISOM advocacy objectives and approach.

A ToT on Legal aspects of Advocacy and SHGs management has been conducted. NGOs Partners and CPs are confident and have better understanding on their advocacy work to promote human rights and rights to land in their target areas. Additionally, they apply advocacy tactics to support SHGs and target villagers. Further knowledge on managerial skills are used to strengthen the capacity of the SHGs with the improvement of their communication and coordination within SHGs members.

Furthermore, the concept of alternative dispute resolution was offered to several SHGs. It is a useful methodology to manage the problem and conflicts. Strengthening the book keeping and financial reporting skills were also the part of the training since it is very crucial to make the SHGs more transparent. It is observed that, through pre-post test, around 70% of their knowledge is increased, comparing to their previous knowledge on the training topics.

As the result from this ToT, the NGO partner staffs have conducted the advocacy training to SHGs members which benefit more and more villagers after the ToT training was offered by ADDA/READA advisors.

[Based on the capacity building plan, an international study visit had been conducted from 17 to 19 December, 2015 to Surin, Thailand. The objective of the study visit is to strengthen the capacity of staff and NGO partners. The group has learnt about Surin's Agriculture Development, particularly on how local people started the Agriculture Cooperatives in Thailand. The study visit consists of 44 participants who were from the 5 NGOs partners of ADDA/READA.](#)

CISOM core project staff was kindly invited to participate during a two day training course organized by provincial department in ODM together with public staff in charge of the CIP process. CISOM core staff has trained and transferred knowledge on the CIP process to the CP and SHGs(56 SHGs/Villages=2242 villagers). Based on the training, we learned that the SHG members and other villagers understand and accept the CIP process and they consider it a very important mechanism to improve their livelihood. A number of the trained SHG members/villagers do not only care to raise their concerns themselves; they also act on behalf of the other poor people in their communities striving to integrate their priorities into the CIP, and to seek for supports from the government, other NGOs and other duty bearers.

In this reporting period (Q4, 2014), the project aimed to strengthen the advocacy tactics of the action. A refreshing training on the subject was conducted in order to provide deeper understanding of the NGO partners and CPs. This course followed up on previous trainings on advocacy skills conducted by the professional trainer from legal NGO, Legal Aid of Cambodia in the previous quarter. The presentation focused on Sporadic Land Registration and Land Dispute Resolution.

The presentation improved knowledge of the NGOs partners. ADDA/READA staff provided short presentations regarding the rights of people to participate in the public forum by quoting some articles from the constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The guiding documents to conduct forum were provided and discussed, because we believe that public forum are one of the most appropriate mechanisms to strengthen relevant and efficient advocacy on behalf of – and by poor people. Such knowledge is not only shared with partners and CPs, but also transferred to the SHG members and other villagers. One of the big achievements regarding advocacy work is that the villagers acquired knowledge, they feel confident about their rights, and they are brave enough to bring their concerns to the attention of the authorities. Advocacy skills are most likely to be one of the effective ways to help the people without violence.

The advocacy strategy outlined during the training on Commune Investment Plan to the SHG members and key persons has proven to be very effective. For instance, one of our SHGs expressed their concern regarding obtaining land title after the demarcation by Prime Minister Order #001. People repeatedly raised their concerns in every

meeting, especially during CIP training sessions organised by the project. As the result, the people got their land titles. The key to the success was that SHG kept on raising their concern; the Commune Council heard it and changes occurred. Furthermore, in mid-2015, the government agenda was to focus on conducting CIP in all villages. Hence, SHG and NGO partners played important roles in helping the farmers to express their needs and proposal to be incorporate into CIP. Later on, they also follow up and monitor their proposal in the process of DIP. As the result, some of their needs were accepted and the remaining one will be sent to the provincial level for the consideration.

Land disputes have been successfully solved through a series of on-the-job training on legal aspects of advocacy and training of Community Professionals (CP). Legal disputes/ccases have been settled successfully by a win-win strategy arising from initial discussions within SHGs. Total 24 cases/issues have been intervened through advocacy and CIP. As the result, 22 cases/issues have been solved and respond by local government while another two cases are still in the processes. The CISOM project have been involved in and successfully solved 20 cases by intervention/coordination of the NGO partners and CPs. Several examples exist and are detailed in the descriptions below.

With such achievements from advocacy SHG members, villagers and partners have become convinced that it is worthwhile to fight for their rights. They are encouraged and brave enough to join other government; some of them have “a big picture” in their mind; they are able to cope with their challenges and to change unjust by their own effort.

Directors, accountants and other project staff of the implementing NGO partners have been trained on the CISOM concept during on-the-job training activities e.g. monthly meetings, workshops, meetings, field tours and training sessions with senior local and international staff.

Accountants and other project staff of the implementing NGO partners were trained on the CISOM concept during on-the-job training on Quickbook, budget follow up, procurement, filing system. As the result, partner staff members, especially the accountants have understood the financial system and they are capable of recording the data and information. They also can produce the report on time especially they can monitor the flow of budget.

Improved management planning and budgeting have been applied and the specific training provided to partners has strengthened the CISOM partnership. Reflections/recommendations regarding strengthening of communication, partner ownership and specific comments/advice to improve quality of project implementation among the 5 NGOs have further developed the partnership.

During the first annual partner meeting in January 2014 achievements, plans, challenges, experiences were discussed. Main findings and conclusions to be included in the first annual CISU progress report were outlined.

The SHG members have clear view for the future of their SHGs after 100% of the SHG members were invited to the study visit of SHGs and Agriculture Cooperatives in Siem Reap which are the model of CISOM in Oddar Meanchey.

The new capacity building sessions of women leadership, conflict resolution and small business planning were offered to the SHG group leaders and NGO staff partners by the experts from ADDA/READA. As the result, the groups can come up with their planning and goals for their SHGs. Additionally, 22 SHGs have been running their own businesses by focusing on buying and selling in credit of fertilizers, chemical pesticide, rice mill which were invested in total 9,929 USD of SHG capital and a few shares from SHG members. Through the business plan, all running small businesses were expected to earn profit 1,673 USD. As the result, 50% of SHG are running businesses and the first transaction had been finished for the first cycle. Now the SHGs could collect the profit as plan. The remaining businesses will be last till the late February 2016 and the other SHGs are still in the process of analysis and planning for the new businesses.

Furthermore, 27 public forums and 12 SHG forums were conducted successfully with the 4,581(2,382 female) participants. The forum talked about the issues of land, health, education and infrastructure.

The external consultant was hired and the field visit plan was established for the period of April 27, 2015 to May 01, 2015. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the implementation progress to date identifying successes, challenges and whether the project achieves its objectives or not.

As the result in this quarter, the Project Final Evaluation report was established successfully by external consultant. Additionally, Internal Mid-term Assessment and SHG evaluation Reports were also produced successfully by the project team.

Empowerment of Civil Society in Oddar Meanchey (CISOM)

[Project progress/data update during recent quarter is marked in blue]

Introduction:

CISOM (2013-2015) - Empowerment of Civil Societies in Oddar Meanchey Province was approved by CISU in December 2012 and started officially on 1st of January 2013. The cooperation agreements with all partners have been signed. Annual and monthly work plans including working procedures have been elaborated; short and long term budget planning including monthly follow-up has been developed. Efficient planning and follow-up is in operation.

All full time staff of CISOM project were recruited and contracted in close cooperation between implementing partners and ADDA. The staff include: 1 Project Coordinator, 1 Senior Agricultural Advisor, 3 District Coordinators and 3 District Facilitators.

The Inception Workshop was held in March 2013 under the great honour of H.E. Deputy Provincial Governor and Chief of Provincial Development Council with the participation of line departments, local authorities, NGOs and other institutions working in Oddar Meanchey Province.

The 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) was conducted on 20th August 2013. Progress and work plans for CISOM were outlined and discussed. The PSC committee supported objectives, approved work plans and recommended to use terms like "land issues" rather than "land rights" because advocacy on land rights is a very sensitive issue in ODM.

The 2nd Project Steering Committee meeting was conducted on 25th June, 2015. The main objective of this meeting is to get feedback of our activities and to seek the recommendation from members to put into the second CISOM, particularly to collect the information on how to design our new project.

All local partner NGOs are participating in the network "DANGO" where possible synergy and measures have been taken to avoid activity overlapping between different projects.

1. Outputs and results achieved

Output 1.1:

End 2015, NGO partner staff in ODM has conducted 80 FFS and 100 focus trainings, which have resulted in increased production at 1600 households comprising the poorest of the poor and especially woman.

Summary of progress

Target villages and communes have been reviewed. 54 villages were selected for project implementation. During Q4-2014, additionally 13 villages have been selected for project implementation, because 54 target villages were not sufficient to reach the expected number of participants. The total numbers of target villages have increased to 67 villages.

Twenty community professionals (CPs) have been selected, including 10 female CPs. Most CPs has basic school education – between grade 6 to 12. Their background is village livestock agents and/or members of village development committees. 5 CPs do not have any experience working with other organizations or institutions. Nine new CPs (2 new CPs were recruited in RCEDO) have replaced CPs who resigned during project implementation, because of a heavy workload. Most new CPs have been selected from active members of IFFS/SHG. Currently, there are 22 CPs working for project.

A baseline survey covering 54 villages' status was prepared. Data analysis and a report are available from ADDA Dropbox CISOM files. Selection criteria's for beneficiaries, villages and lists of ID Poor1& Poor2 have been updated.

End of quarter 4-2014, CISOM launched an Internal Mid-term Assessment with the purpose to assess the impacts of project intervention on target groups, to seek the evidence supporting statements of monthly reports, to find out challenges faced and trainings needed by target groups in order to strengthen sustainability before the project terminates. The scope of the assessment is interviews of 10 % direct beneficiaries and conduct group interviews covering 40% of SHGs.

The data collections were done and entered into the data base system. As the result, the report was produced successfully in this quarter.

Indicator1: Mid 2013, NGO partners in OMC are trained on the FFS and SHG concepts:
Staff orientation on the CISOM the FFS and SHG concepts:

- Several meetings with project staff to share FFS and SHG formation concepts
- One 2-day workshop regarding Training of Trainers (ToT)

Seven CISOM staff from NGO partners were trained on issues related to Food Security and development of Civil Society organisations. Their knowledge, experience and skills have significantly increased on facilitation, communication, teaching methods, SHG formation, gender, advocacy, rights and law, CIP, business development as well as agricultural techniques, covering mainly chicken raising, vegetable growing-home gardening, cash crops and rice production. CPs are able to facilitate and conduct farmer field school and formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Indicator2: Mid 2013, ToT has been implemented for 20 CPs and 4 staff from PDA and PoWA.

Curriculum of ToT were developed and upgraded based on especially the IWEP experience and the CISOM project design. Training materials were developed including 21 posters and hand out notes.

20 CPs and 4 staff from PDA and PoWA were successfully trained during ToT on Food Security and development of Civil Society Organisations from April 29 to June 19, 2013 at the campus of the Provincial Agriculture Department in ODM. Their knowledge increased by 48% according to the results of pre- and post-tests.

2 new CPs were recruited by RCEDO. Totally 9 CPs have been recruited to replace CPs resigning from the project. Various reasons motivate their resignations: Better jobs offered by other projects, migration to Thailand, heavy workload etc. Most CPs have built significant capacity during their project assignment and a certain turnover was foreseen; however, a turnover of 45 % is higher than expected.

Indicator 3: End of 2015, 80 FFSs are successfully implemented:
80 FFSs have been successfully implemented.

Indicator 4: At least 75% of the FFS participants are female. (1500 female)
Totally 2,100 families 1,636 female participated during FFSs.

Indicator 5: Output/input ratio increase for farmers in their production of vegetables, cash crops, rice and small livestock

Based on Internal Mid-term Assessment, the income was increasing up to 88.77USD per family yearly, comparing to the baseline, which was only 24.36 USD per family per year. 82 % of the SHG members continued to use the technical knowledge learned from IFFS.

Indicator 6: Small livestock survival rate increase for farmers

By comparing the result of survival rate during the baseline survey and Internal Mid-term Assessment, the rate was reduced from 70% to 34%.

Indicator 7: 90 % of the trained participants expresses satisfaction of relevance of the FFS and express that they have gained new knowledge

Most of the farmers expressed their satisfactions to FFS because they can use this skill to practice it at home; particularly their home gardens help them a lot with income generation. The FFS helped them to change their practise from the traditional plantation to the modern one. Additionally, they use the skill from CISOM to share it with other farmers in their communities. The product of plantation from their gardens does not only help them with consumption but it also helps them to boost their family economic by selling them to the market.

Assumption 1:

Selection of villages and beneficiaries is creating synergy with other project

67 villages have been selected in close collaboration with PDA and other relevant projects in the province e.g. FAO MALIS. Synergy is created and CISOM does not overlap with similar project interventions in ODM.

Assumption 2:

Targeted families are willing to invest time and put new techniques and methods into practice.

Participating beneficiaries are dedicated and eager to grow vegetable and raise chicken.

Most of 80 FFS keep using the agricultural technique from CISOM and those has resulted in the formation of 80 SHGs.

Relevance of output 1.1

FFS and focus trainings are very important to secure income generation and commitment of the beneficiaries.

Relevance of indicators

44 NGO staff members have shared their knowledge among their colleagues and the knowledge was also transferred from the colleagues of NGO partners to beneficiaries of other projects in ODM. For instance, it is noticed that the key staff of CISOM was invited by RCEDO head office to train the others staff members of other project of RCEDO by using CISOM concept. The training mostly focused on SHG management and book keeping.

Nr.	Output	Indicators (7)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
1.1	End 2015, NGO partner staff in ODM has conducted 80 FFS and 100 focus trainings which have resulted in increased production at 1600 households	Mid 2013, NGO partners in OMC are trained on the FFS and SHG concepts	3 Coordinators 3 Facilitators	3 3	100 100
		Mid 2013, ToT has been implemented	20 4	20 4	100 100

comprising the poorest of the poor and especially woman.	for 20 CPs and 4 staff from PDA and PoWA			
	End of 2015, 80 FFSs are successfully implemented	80	80	100
	At least 75% of the FFS participants are female	1,500	1,636	109
	Output/input ratio increase for farmers in their production of vegetables, cash crops, rice and small livestock	Output/input ratio increase – [present/baseline] Baseline: - 27 % planted vegetables. -48% raised the chicken	2154 IFFS participant have planted vegetables and raised chicken	63% increase planting vegetable. 42 % increase raising chicken
	Small livestock survival rate increase for farmers	70% survival rate at the beginning(baseline)	(Survival rate during the baseline survey and Internal Mid-term Assessment, the rate was reduced from 70% to 34%)	
	90 % of the trained participants express satisfaction and relevance of the FFS and express that they have gained new knowledge	90 %(1800 participants express satisfaction)	2154 FFS participant have planted vegetable and raised chicken). No one drop out IFFS	119%

Output1.2:

By 2015, 50 % of the FFS alumni/SHG members are able to assess the market and adjust their production according to market opportunities.

Summary of progress:

CPs were trained on business planning during ToT and they have discussed crop production according to the market needs with villagers during implementation of FFS.

It is noticed that the numbers of SHG who have established/improved their home gardens and have sold vegetables. The family selling products were increased from previous quarter (349SHGs members) to 420 SHGs in this quarter. Additionally, they can earn up to 22,300 USD which is accumulated of income for this quarter is 140,708 USD. Approximately 65% of the FFS alumni continue to cultivate vegetables. 10 % have converted from home garden vegetable production to semi-commercial vegetable production. 69% of the families in FFS (Batch 1, 2 and 3) have a small production of egg for hatching, consumption and sale.

Indicator1: End 2015, 50% of farmers produce a broader variety of crops and small animal and they respond to the market demand.

- Farmers have been trained on selection of vegetable crop species for cultivation according to the market demand.
- CPs and FFs alumni have been trained on profit analysis
- farmers produce a broader variety of crops and small animal according to market demand

Indicator 2: A profit is earned on vegetables, cash crops and rice that are sold to the market.

A total income of 140,708 USD was recorded from all members while another 22,300 USD was recorded from 420 families selling vegetable in this quarter. 80% of the income is considered as their profit based on Internal Mid-Term Assessment.

Indicator 3: End 2015, 33 % of HH has increased income at least 30% from sale of vegetables, cash crops, rice and small livestock.

Assumption:

A market for the products is available:

Local market at village level is available for the FFS alumni. However, the central market is located rather far from some of the target groups.

Relevance of output 1.2

Market information and analysis is very relevant in order to improve quantity products and to meet the market need.

Relevance of indicators

394 farmers have been selling the surplus vegetable production into the markets.

Nr.	Output	Indicators (3)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
1.2	By 2015, 50% of the FFS alumni/SHG members are able to access the market and adjust their projection according to market opportunities.	End of 2015, 50% of farmers produce a broader variety of crops and small animals and they respond to the market demand	1000	- 1,295HH (Q4 2015) - 879 HH(Q1-2015) - 394 HH(Q2-2015) - 349 HH(Q3-2015) - 420 HH(Q4-2015)	- 130% - 88% - 39% - 35% - 42%
		A profit is earned on vegetables, cash crops and rice that are sold to the market.	1000	-1,295HH=75,078 \$ -879 HH=19,778\$ -394HH= 4,933USD -349HH= 8,081USD -420HH= 22,300USD -Accumulation up to this Q2=140,708\$	80% of profit
		End 2015, 33 % of HH has increased	33 % (660 HH) of	1295 HH increased income from selling	196%

		income at least 30% from sale of vegetables, cash crops, rice and small livestock.	households increased income	vegetables - 879 HH increased income from selling vegetables - 394HH increased income selling vegetables - 349 HH increased income selling vegetables - 420HH increased income selling vegetables	133% 59% 53% 64%
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Output 1.3: Fellow villagers share experience from FFS and SHGs - and they are encouraged to form SHGs.

Summary of progress:

67 Field days have been conducted involving 4,266 direct and indirect beneficiaries, including 2,842 female. Key implementation techniques and guidelines of FFS and SHG formation have been followed. Field day event and focus training sessions have been implemented in a successful manner. The number of participants increased compared to previous cycles of FFS, resulting in a higher number of beneficiaries than planned/expected. Project direct beneficiaries have shared FFS experiences with their neighbors. It is estimated that app. 2066 fellow villagers participated during field days and focus training sessions. 49 villagers volunteered to become SHG members.

Indicator1: 200 focus trainings/field days arranged

- Members of 18 SHGs and key decision makers at village level have been trained on Community Investment Planning (CIP).
- 67 Field Days have been arranged

Indicator 2:150 focus trainings days arranged

- *288 focus training sessions have been conducted on basics of advocacy, SHG management, Agriculture technique, CIP, woman leadership and small business by involving 8,071 (6,216female) direct and indirect beneficiaries.*
- 4,266 (2,842F) shared their knowledge from FFS with the other farmers on how to boost their plantation products. Another 390 people of SHG does not only share their knowledge on the plantation techniques, but they also share their knowledge and experience on daily life. It is also a forum to attract more villagers to become the members of SHGs. 49 villagers volunteered to become SHG members.

Assumption:

N/A (not applicable to this output)

Relevance of output 1.3

Field day events and focus trainings are very relevant in order to widespread better agricultural techniques, basics on Community Investment Planning (CIP) to project beneficiaries and villagers not directly participating in the project.

Relevance of indicators

Nr.o	Output	Indicators	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
1.3	Fellow villagers share experience from FFS and SHGs and they are encouraged to form SHGs	65 field days arranged	65 field days 5200 beneficiaries	. 67 field days . 4,266(2,842F) Beneficiaries	103% 82%
		150 focus trainings days arranged	150 focus trainings days arranged 3000 Beneficiaries	288 courses 8,071 (6,216female) beneficiaries	192% 269%

Output 2.1

End of 2015, member of 80 SHGs have agreed on internal leadership, democratic principles, structure, procedure and simple protocols of each SHGs

Summary of progress

80 SHGs involving a total of 2,042 villagers (1,604 females) were formed during FFS. All SHGs have elected a SHG committee leader, an assistant and a treasurer. 80 SHGs have agreed on internal leadership, democratic principles, structure, procedure and simple protocols. Most recently formed SHGs are in the process of developing their constitution, activity plans and the group vision with the assistance from the CPs and the projects staff. CPs attends all SHG meetings to facilitate the development of strong SHG societies. Up to this quarter, 80 SHGs were registered CBO at commune level successfully.

It is noticed - after passing the evaluation on proper SHG management -5 SHGs received funding support from the FAO/Malis project (3 SHG/CIDO, 2SHG/RCEDO). Few well performing SHG member received funds up to 200 USD to purchase agricultural input at a trade exhibition organised by the FAO project. SHG members have to pay back 60 % of the funds received to the SHG savings during the rice harvest season.

The SHG committee/members have been trained on bookkeeping and financial reporting. Such skills were part of the training since it is very crucial to secure proper recordings and SHGs transparency.

Indicator 1: End of 2015, 80 SHGs have outlined constitution, elected group vision and activity plans.

80SHGshave been formed and proper SHG structures have been established within 80 SHGs. Most recently formed SHGs are in the process of developing their constitution, activity plans and the group vision

Indicator 2:85 % of the trained SHG members express satisfaction and relevance of the SHG training, follow up meetings and express that they have gained new knowledge

2075 SHG members express satisfaction and relevance of the SHG training, follow up meetings and express that they have gained new knowledge according to SHG evaluation reports.

It is noticed that most members of 80 SHGs expressed their satisfaction of their membership.

Indicator 3: End 2015, 80 SHGs are registered CBOs at the commune council

80 SHGs has been registered at commune level and 80 CBO registration documents have been issued.

80SHGs have been registered successfully with the commune councils. The commune council is the body of the government in charge of the local territories and CC is the body that have the competence to endorse the particular proposal of the villagers.

Assumption:

N/A (not applicable to this output)

Relevance of output 2.1

Self Help Group structures are grass root civil society organisations. The SHGs are considered very important drivers towards advocacy on behalf of the poorest of the poor; because members will be trained on elementary rules of democracy, speaking our loud, social and commercial issues etc. during regular SHG meetings.

Relevance of indicators

Proper SHG constitutions, structures and member satisfaction is key for further development and SHG sustainability.

Nr.	Output	Indicators (3)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
2.1	End 2015, members of 80 SHGs have agreed on internal leadership, democratic principles, structures, procedures and simple protocols of each SHG.	End 2015, 80 SHGs have outlined constitution, elected committee(s), developed group vision and activity plans	80	80 of 80 SHGs have outlined constitution, elected committee(s).	100%
		85 % of the trained SHG members express satisfaction and relevance of the SHG training, follow up meetings and express that they have gained new knowledge	85 %(1564 SHG members) express satisfaction	2100 SHG members express relevance and 2094 SHG members express relevance and satisfaction 2042 SHG members express relevance and satisfaction	134% Based on the active participation and amount of saving Increase. 133% Based on the active participation and amount of saving money increase
		End 2015, 80 SHGs are registered CBOs at the commune council	80 SHGs are registered CBOs at the commune council.	80 have been registered with commune successfully.	100%

Output 2.2:

End 2015, a regular saving scheme is implemented within 80 SHGs and all members have access to micro-capital for emergencies and new productive activities.

Summary of progress:

SHG committee members have been trained on book keeping and taking minutes. Saving schemes and proper book keeping is now implemented in all 80 SHGs. **Members have saved totally up to 87,726 USD. 65% of total savings**

have been lent to the 527 SHG members. Loans are mainly used for harvest of cassava, planting and expenses for vegetable production, selling grocery and treatment. 5,385 US dollars was contributed from SHG members when they paid for chickens, which were donated to the project.

Indicator1: By 2015, 90 % of SHG members are regularly saving.

- 1,680 out of 2100 members which is equivalent to 80% of the SHGs have regular meeting and savings. Meetings and saving every second week was set in the group constitutions. Average saving per member is 1US dollar per month.
- 1,529 out of 2094members which is equivalent to 73% of the SHGs have regular meeting and savings. Meetings and saving every second week was set in the group constitutions. Average saving per member is 1US dollar per month.
- 1,452 out of 2075 members which is equivalent to 72% of the SHGs have regular meeting and savings. Meetings and saving every second week was set in the group constitutions. Average saving per member is 1US dollar per month.
- 1,487 out of 2075 members which is equivalent to 72% of the SHGs have regular meeting and savings. Meetings and saving every second week was set in the group constitutions. Average saving per member is 1US dollar per month.
- 1,327 out of 2042 members which is equivalent to 65% of the SHGs have regular meeting and savings. Meetings and saving every second week was set in the group constitutions. Average saving per member is 1US dollar per month.

Indicator2: By 2015, 95% members borrow money for emergency and new productive activities.

- 65% of savings is borrowed by SHG members. The amount lend out will increase when members have set the plan for proper use of money after analysis of household asset, constraints and potentials for positive change and the subsequent development of a household action plan.

Indicator 3: 90 % of loans are successfully repaid

- 75% of loans are successfully repaid based on the monthly record
- Internal rules on loan repayment are strictly applied and most of them repay on time.

Assumption:

N/A (not applicable to this output)

Relevance of output 2.2

SHG formation is a very important structure for members and villagers. They meet and discuss needs they reflect on community issues regarding the economic empowerment and civil society strengthening.

Relevance of indicators

It is very essential to the overall functionality of the SHGs that members save at regular intervals according to rules, have access to microloans and repay according to schedules.

Nr.	Output	Indicators (3)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
2.2	End 2015, a regular saving scheme is implemented within 80 SHGs and all members	By 2015, 90 % of SHG members are regularly saving	1656	1,680(Q4-2014) 1,529(Q1-2015) 1,452(Q2-2015) 1,487(Q3-2015)	101% 92% 88% 90%

	have access to micro-capital for emergencies and new productive activities.			1,327(Q4-2015)	80%
	By 2015, 95 % members borrow money for emergencies and new productive activities s	1748	1,815	946 969 1031 527	103% 54% 55% 59% 30%
	90 % of loans are successfully repaid	90% of loans are successfully repaid		75% of loans are successfully repaid based on the monthly record	

Output 2.3:

End 2015, SHG use the skills gained from trainings and organize 20 micro group business activities - mainly joint procurement of inputs and/or marketing of their production.

Summary of progress

Selection of SHGs for introduction of micro group business activities has started recently. The CISOM business advisor is planning to start training from beginning of March 2015. It is expected that selected SHGs initiate micro business activities soon after the training.

22 SHGs have been running their own businesses by focusing on buying and selling in credit of fertilizers, chemical pesticide, rice milk which were invested in total 9,929 USD of SHG capital and a few shares from SHG members. Through the business plan, all running small businesses were expected to earn profit 1,673 USD. As the result, 50% of SHG are running businesses and the first transaction had been finished for the first cycle. Now the SHGs could collect the profit as plan. The remaining businesses will be last till the late February 2016 and the other SHGs are still in the process of analysis and planning for the new businesses.

Indicator 1. By 2015, 25 % of SHG members have been actively involved in household asset analysis and overall results have been discussed within each SHG

- 20 SHGs have been identified and it is planned to conduct household asset analysis and subsequently to establish micro businesses within these groups. NGO partners have identified potential SHGs and they propose that ADDA/READA experts support micro business planning activities and training.
- 43 SHGs with 900 households have been trained and participated to conduct household asset analysis and subsequently to establish micro businesses within these groups.

Indicator 2. By 2015, 20 SHGs have established micro business activities

22 SHGs have been running their own businesses by focusing on buying and selling in credit of fertilizers, chemical pesticide, rice milk which were invested in total 9,929 USD of SHG capital and a few shares from SHG members. Through the business plan, all running small businesses were expected to earn profit 1,673 USD. As the result, 50% of SHG are running businesses and the first transaction had been finished for the first cycle. Now the SHGs could collect the profit as plan. The remaining businesses will be last till the late February 2016 and the other SHGs are still in the process of analysis and planning for the new businesses.

Relevance of output 2.3

Micro business activities have potential to provide valuable services to members (cheaper inputs, better marketing etc.) and would increase earnings as well as SHG sustainability.

Relevance of indicators

Household asset analysis is seen a prerequisite to the subsequent establishment of micro businesses within these groups. It is observed that the household asset analysis is crucial, as it is the initial idea to launch their family business. The business analysis would enable them to see the potential to establish their own business. Moreover, this initiative idea will also contribute to the establishment of the SHG business to absorb more incomes.

Nr.	Output	Indicator(3)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
2.3	End 2015, SHG use the skills gained from trainings and organize 20 micro group business activities - mainly joint procurement of inputs and/or marketing of their production	By 2015, 25 % of SHG members have been actively involved in household asset analysis and overall results have been discussed within each SHG	25 % (460 members)	1,140	248%
		20 SHGs have established micro business activities	20 SHGs	22 SHGs	110%

Output 2.4

End 2015, 4 staff from the Provincial Department of Woman Affairs and Provincial Department of Agriculture in ODM acknowledges the project concept and they apply major elements of the FFS and/or SHG concept outside the project target area.

Summary of progress

4staff from PDA and PDWA was trained during ToT.

By recommendation from the Provincial Agriculture Department, one NGO has selected one of the CISOM SHGs to develop into an Agricultural Cooperative.

Indicator 1: 4 staff from PDA and PDWA participated during ToT and refresher training

- 4 staff of PDA and PDWA were trained on the overall project concept including farmer field school, SHG, advocacy and linkage with village commune councils and they have been strengthened more on technical knowledge on how to cultivate fruitful home garden, chicken and egg production, strengthening SHG and last – but not least – on human rights, land rights and advocacy skill.

Indicator 2: Reports on activities conducted by PDA

Not available yet

Indicator 3: Major elements of the CISOM concept are used by PDA or PDWA during their training of 5000 poor people in ODM.

- PDA have conducted 19 trainings based on CISOM guidelines
- The district agriculture officers have applied major elements of the FFS concept outside the CISOM project area and have trained 1,196 (722F) poor people in ODM district on vegetable, chicken and egg production.
- Based on interviews with staff from the provincial official department, it is concluded that they acknowledge the potential of CISOM interventions. Their capacity increased significantly and they use this knowledge to train people in their target areas. Additionally, it created more opportunity for them to attract more projects from other development agencies to support their department and people in this province.

Assumption:

Provincial and local officials take ownership and facilitate widespread use of major concept elements

This assumption has to be further detailed when further progress is achieved.

Relevance of output 2.4

The outreach to other beneficiaries besides target group is a key success factor, because appropriate agricultural technologies, empowerment of the poor in their rural communities through formation of SHG, participation in the CIP process would be widespread to other poor people in ODM.

Relevance of indicators

Training of PDA and PDWA staff, official reporting's and counting is of number of trainees is not easy; however, it is relevant because it indicates outreach of CISOM in an appropriate manner.

Nr.	Output	Indicator(3)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
2.4	End 2015, 4 staff from the Provincial Department of Woman Affairs and Provincial Department of Agriculture in ODM acknowledges the project concept and they apply major elements of the FFS and/or SHG concept outside the project target area.	<i>4 staff from PDA and PDWA participated during ToT</i>	2 PDA officers 2 PDWA officers	2 2	100 100
		Report on activities conducted by PDA.		PDA have conducted 19 trainings based on CISOM guidelines	
		Staff of PDA/PDWA apply major elements of the FFS, SHG and advocacy	5000 beneficiaries	1,352(848F)	27%

Output 3.1:

End 2015, local NGOs in ODM have assisted 60 SHGs and 1.300 other villagers in their analysis of problems and opportunities within 40 villages.

Summary of progress:

1060 villagers have actively participated during analysis of problems and opportunities in their local communities. 18PVDP reports have been made outlining priorities and recommendations of rural poor

Indicator 1: End 2015; NGOs in ODM have conducted Participatory Village Development Planning (PVDP) for 40 villages

65 PVDP processes have been carried through.

Indicator 2: End 2015, at least 1300 SHG members and 1300 other villagers actively participated during analysis of problems and opportunities in their local communities

6,123 villagers have actively participated during analysis of problems and opportunities in their local communities.

Indicator 3: End 2015, 40 PVDP reports have been made outlining priorities and recommendations of rural poor

65 PVDP reports have been made outlining priorities and recommendations of rural poor.

Examples of priorities of the poor:

- Education
- Roads
- Security
- Land titles
- Reduction of domestic violence

For instance, training and village meetings on CIP were conducted and facilitated by CISOM. The aim of the events is to strengthen the capacity of SHGs and other relevant stakeholders to better understand the CIP process and implications. It also discussed about the challenges, needs and solutions. Later one, the participant has categorised challenges, needs, and solutions based on what they faced in their daily life. As the result, this report was incorporated into the commune investment plan for seeking the support from both the government and development agencies.

Assumptions: Undermining of its authority and power. Drawing attention to its own shortcomings. The project may assist local organizations to impose greater demands on local government.

The project is facilitating Participatory Village Development Planning outlining priorities of the poor, which is supporting a constructive dialog with local authorities during the CIP process.

Relevance of output 3.1

The CIP process and the advocacy strategies are very crucial mechanism for the changes and civil society influence. It is a tool and a forum where the duty bearers and rights holders can meet.

Relevance of indicators

SHG members and villagers in 65 villages participated during CISOM sessions on PVDP and village meetings in order to identify their priority needs and efficiently communicate priorities to the commune chief(s). Indicators are relevant to ensure that the priority needs of the villagers are identified, heard and communicated in an appropriate manner.

Nr.	Output	Indicators(3)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
3.1	End 2015, local NGOs in ODM have assisted 60 SHGs and 1.300 other villagers in their analysis of problems and opportunities within 40 villages.	End 2015; NGOs in ODM have conducted Participatory Village Development Planning (PVDP) for 40 villages	40	80 SHGs/65Villages CIP training	162%
		End 2015, at least 1300 SHG members and 1300 other villagers actively participated during analysis of problems and opportunities in their local communities	2600	6,123(4,232FF) (CIP training and processes)	236%
		End 2015, 40 PVDP reports have been made outlining priorities and	40 PVDP reports	65PVDP report has been made	162%

		recommendations of rural poor			
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Output 3.2:

End 2015, partner NGOs in ODM have improved capacity of 80 SHG (committees and members) and at least 50 have advanced to become efficiently operating SHG forums, where, in particular, poor women are able to analyse social issues, acquire knowledge of local governance frameworks and the skills to make use of that knowledge in community decision-making.

Summary of progress:

In order to boost the capacity of NGO partners and target beneficiaries, CPs and NGO partners were invited to join a TOT training on Legal Advocacy, Human rights and SHG management. Later on, SHG members and other villagers gained more knowledge on the concepts of advocacy/operacy, including participation by poor people. All training sessions were based on the constitution law and other relevant international and domestic laws. CPs and NGO staff carried out training at local level. Commune forums were conducted in close collaboration between local authorities and NGO partners. Challenges of the villagers were raised in these forums. In several cases the government offered land ownership and land titles to villagers following these trainings. NGO partners and CPs solved some low profile cases during consultations. It was observed that local authorities changed attitude, because they became more cooperative and more confident to work with the people in their community. It is noticed that poor people/the target group are brave and capable to speak out loud, face local authorities and to cope with their challenges.

The concept of alternative dispute resolution was offered to several SHGs. It is a useful methodology to manage the problem and conflicts.

Total cases/issues have been intervened through advocacy and CIP. As the result, 22 cases/issues have been solve and respond while another two cases are still in the processes.

Indicator 1: End 2015, advocacy themes have been discussed and prioritised by SHG under the supervision of NGOs

Identified advocacy themes:

- Land titles
- Land dispute resolution
- Infrastructure
- Health issues
- Education
- Legal issues affecting public private collaboration
- Sexual Abuse

Indicator 2: Number of incidences of family domestic violence is reduced.

12% is remaining by comparing the baseline report (48%) at the beginning of the project.

Indicator 3: 85 % of the trained SHG members express satisfaction of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge

Knowledge is achieved and impact of skills is obtained during CISOM phase 1.

Indicator 4: 20 CDPs has been implemented e.g. construction of rice banks, ring wells

- 30 ring wells, 1 pump well and 9 rice banks have been constructed including two more ponds renovations
- Forming SHGs is a great mechanism to unite the villagers to have a common voice and to cope with the challenges in their communities effectively. For instance, with the coordination of a Community Professional,

the villagers and the leaders of SHG constructed a 500 meter road within 30 days by sharing of costs and energy in terms of labor. A CISOM CP strongly supported the SHG members and other villagers to build this road using a successful approach. The road used to be an important road for the people to bring their products to the market, but lately, its condition was terrible. The villagers could not access this road at all, but this changed with the intervention of the SHG and the CP.

Similarly, with same CP's coordination, the villagers and other members of SHGs, constructed a bridge, 30 meter long and 1.5 meter wide, across a canal in the village successfully. The villagers used to cross this canal by boat and if the people want to bring their products to the market they have to change the direction which was very far comparing to the current direction. As the result, the people can have a bridge through SHGs.

- One of the significant achievements through CIP was that 12.6 km of road which can be benefit to 5 villages were supported by local authorities including another one building with five classrooms for a community college was supported by the government though CIP processes as well.
- Additionally, with the unity among the SHG members, one public resting hall was constructed. This building is used for the public purpose such as meeting, relaxation for the pedestrians/travelers and some common event celebration of the villages.

Assumptions: Advocacy on land rights does not represent life threatening risks to individuals, SHGs or NGOs

Advocacy on land rights does not represent a life threatening risks to individuals, SHGs or NGOs

Relevance of output 3.2

NGO partners felt confident with the concept of advocacy and they are capable of using the advocacy tactic to coordinate the SHG members and other villagers to analyse and solve their challenges. They know how to advocate to avoid violence.

Relevance of indicators

Indicator 1, 2 and 4 are relevant, because they have secured identification of advocacy themes, counts number of incidences of family domestic violence in order to reduce incidences and

It is proposed to rephrase indicator 3: 1564 members express their satisfaction on knowledge achieved and impact of skills acquired during CISOM phase 1

Nr.	Output	Indicator (4)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
3.2	End 2015, partner NGOs in ODM have improved capacity of 80 SHG (committees and members) and at least 50 have advanced to become efficiently operating SHG forums, where in particular, poor woman are able to analyse social issues, acquire knowledge of local governance frameworks and the skills to make use of that knowledge in	End 2015, advocacy themes have been discussed and prioritised by SHG under the supervision of NGOs	Advocacy themes discussed and prioritised – a prioritised list is available	65 villages have been discussed and incorporated into CIP. 6 series of trainings have been offered with another 2 TOT. 22 cases have been consulted and solved	

	community decision-making.	Number of incidences of family domestic violence is reduced.	48% Domestic violence baseline	12% are remaining based on IMA	
		85 % of the trained SHG members express satisfaction of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge	1564 members express their satisfaction on knowledge achieved and impact of skills acquired during CISOM phase 1	1969 members express their satisfaction on knowledge achieved and impact of skills acquired during CISOM phase 1	126%
		20 CDPs has been implemented e.g. construction of rice banks, ring wells	20 CDPs	42 CDP has been implemented(30 ring wells, 1 pump well, 9 rice banks including 2 pond renovations)	210%

Output 3.3

End 2015, local NGOs in ODM have strengthened their knowledge on advocacy; NGOs have facilitated improved interaction between local authorities and 60 SHG plus 1300 villagers and existing civil society structures; thereby increasing influence in the planning processes and planning decisions.

Summary of progress:

An advocacy road map for the CISOM project has been developed with input from partners, Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC), local authorities, legal advisors and other project stakeholders. Local partner staff and CPs understand and acknowledge CISOM advocacy objectives and approach. See annex 2, page 39.

The SHG members and other villagers understand and accept the CIP process and they consider it a very important mechanism to improve their livelihood. A number of the trained SHG members/villagers do not only deal to raise their concerns themselves; they also act on behalf of the other poor people in their communities striving to integrate priorities into the CIP seeking for supports from the government, other NGOs and other duty bearers.

NGOs Partners are confident and have better understanding on their advocacy work to promote human rights and their rights to land in their target areas. Additionally, they apply advocacy tactics to support SHGs and target villagers. Further knowledge on managerial skills is used to strengthen the capacity of the SHGs improving their communication and coordination within SHGs.

Indicator 1: End 2015, NGO partners are trained on advocacy and are able to conduct training sessions on appropriate training sessions on appropriate advocacy techniques.

- Partners, Directors and Project staff and CPs have been trained on advocacy and civil society, principles of advocacy, roles, and how advocate.
- 7 project staff and 21 CPs have been trained on human right, land right and advocacy skill throughout training courses conducted by outside resources from LAC.

In this reporting period (Q4, 2014), the project aimed to strengthen deeper advocacy tactics and further strengthen the capacity of SHGs. A refreshing training on these topics were conducted in order to build capacity and deeper understanding of the NGO partners and CPs. This course followed training on advocacy skill conducted by the professional trainer from legal NGO, Legal Aid of Cambodia in the previous quarter. The presentation focused on Sporadic Land Registration and Land Dispute Resolution.

The presentation improved knowledge of the NGOs partners. ADDA/READA staff provided short presentations regarding the rights of people to participate in the public forum by quoting some articles from the constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The guiding documents to conduct forum were provided and discussed, because it is believed that public forum is one of the most appropriate mechanisms to strengthen relevant and efficient advocacy on behalf of – and by poor people. We did not only provide this knowledge to the partners and CPs but we - CPs and staff - transferred this knowledge to the SHG members and villagers. One of the big achievements regarding advocacy work is that the villagers acquired knowledge, they feel confident about their rights, and they are brave enough to bring their concerns to the attention of the authorities. Advocacy is highly likely to become one of the effective ways to help the people to live without violence.

The advocacy strategy outlined during the training on Commune Investment Plan to the SHG members and key persons has proven to be very effective. For instance, one of our SHGs expressed their concern regarding obtaining land title after the demarcation by Prime Minister Order #001. People repeatedly raised their concerns in every meeting, especially during CIP training sessions organised by the project. As the result, the people got their land titles. The key to the success was that SHG kept on raising their concern; the Commune Council heard it and changed occurred.

NGOs Partners and CPs are confident and have better understanding on their advocacy work to promote human rights and rights to land in their target areas. Additionally, they apply advocacy tactics to support SHGs and target villagers. Further knowledge on managerial skills is used to strengthen the capacity of the SHGs with the improvement of their communication and coordination within SHGs members.

Indicator 2: 85 % of the trained NGO staff expresses satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge

- 101 staff expresses their satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge. (READA 57; CIDO14, RCEDO 17, KBA 13)

Indicator 3: Partner NGOs advocate for better income generation opportunities of poor people at province, district, commune, and village level.

- NGO partners advocated for support from external sources for road renovation and they were able to solve various conflicts in their target areas, such as land rights issues and some domestic violence cases.
- A group of farmers who are the members of SHGs after getting trained by the CISOM on the advocacy and law and human rights prepared themselves very well for showing their common problem on the case of the breach of trust by gathering all people to protest to the provincial government. The business man bought the cassava from the farmers but they did not pay the money to the farmers. As the result, the Provincial Governor captured the real case and promised to help solving this problem in 10 days by trying to get money paid to farmers.

Indicator 4: End 2015, at least 50 SHGs have involved fellow villagers and developed suggestions on future community development activities and priorities, that have been communicated to local authorities

- 80 SHG and their members are involved in community development.

Indicator 5: End 2015, the 3 NGOs in ODM have passed on their newly gained knowledge to external NGOs operating in ODM

It is noticed that the NGO partners transformed their knowledge from CISOM to practise in the other project. Additionally, the agricultural and advocacy techniques were offered to the other villagers through other project of NGO partners and the provincial government as whole. The new technique and knowledge enable the NGO partners to attract more donors. Moreover, the good reputations from CISOM enable the provincial department of the government to refer other donor agencies to contact NGO partners for funding purposes. As the evidence, the community professionals of the NGO partners gain concrete knowledge from CISOM so it attract more NGO and company to accept them as their part time staff.

Through, the NGO network meeting in Oddar Meanchey, it is the forum where the NGO partners can share their experience and lesson learned to the other stakeholders.

[Additionally, our partners also took CISOM's CP and DC to train their staff in the other project by using the knowledge/experiences from CISOM.](#)

Assumptions:

Local authorities use their qualified staff and allocate some resources in respond to the priorities of the poor peoples and their specific need for sector development.

This assumption will be further described in the future.

Relevance of output 3.3

NGO staff and CPs are the key persons in order to train on advocacy, because SHG members and other villagers need support and ideas to analyse the issue and to find out better ways to improve their status.

Two government officials from Provincial Agriculture Department and 2 officials from Provincial Department of Woman Affaire are the key stakeholders to take part in the CISOM interventions. They are the key actors to transferring CISOM knowledge to the other beneficiaries. Additionally, working with these two government agencies, it enables NGO partners and SHGs have a better dialogue with the government and it is a mean where the duty bearers are approached.

Relevance of indicators

[Indicators are relevant](#)

Nr.	Output	Indicator (5)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
3.3	End 2015, local NGOs in ODM have strengthened their knowledge on advocacy; NGOs have facilitated improved interaction between local authorities and 60 SHG plus 1300 villagers and existing civil society structures; thereby increased influence in the	End 2015, NGO partners are trained on advocacy and are able to conduct training sessions on appropriate advocacy techniques	4 Directors 6 project staff 20CPs	4 6 22	All NGO directors and staff trained, (18 CPs out of 20), however, an on-going activity

planning processes and planning		Land rights addressed - lobbyism improving legal status/rights. 40 cases Total number of beneficiaries 30.800	6 high profile land cases and others 14 cases disputes/issues while another two cases are still in the process. Direct beneficiaries 12,984(7,127F) beneficiaries have improved legal status regarding land rights.	42%
	85 % of the trained NGO staff express satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge)		101staff express satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge. (READA 57; CIDO14, RCEDO 17, KBA 13)	
	Partner NGOs advocate for better income generation opportunities of poor people at province, district, commune, and village level.	The NGO partners support how to produce good products of their plantation by reducing costs They helped with the information of the market price to ensure that the product can be sold at a better price. Additionally, to avoid disaster from flood, NGO partner advised the people to harvest their product before flooding season	NGO partners advocated for support from external sources for road renovation and they were able to solve various conflicts in their target areas, such as land rights issues and some domestic violence cases.	

		End 2015, at least 50 SHGs have involved fellow villagers and developed suggestions on future community development activities and priorities, that have been communicated to local authorities	50 SHGS	80 SHG are Involved in commune development.	160%
		End 2015, the 3 NGOs in ODM have passed on their newly gained knowledge to external NGOs operating in ODM	3 NGOs	3 NGOs	100%

Output 3.4

End 2015, suggestions and priorities of rural poor to the Village, Commune and District Investment Planning have efficiently been communicated to local authorities in ODM by the 3 NGOs and 50 (out of 80) SHGs in ODM

Summary of progress:

80 SHGs were trained and they were able to raise their concerns to the local authorities and the proposals of the villagers were incorporated into the commune investment plan.

385 priorities needs from 65 villages have been incorporated into CIP. SHG members and associated fellow villagers were able to express their needs with a common voice; priority needs that later on became incorporated into the agenda of local authorities. As the result, the voices of the villagers were heard at high levels.

15 priorities needs have been supported at village level.

A SHG expressed its concern regarding obtaining land titles after the demarcation by Prime Minister Order #001. People repeatedly raised their concerns in every meeting, especially during CIP training sessions organised by the project. As the result, the people got their land titles. The key to the success was that SHG kept on raising their concern; the Commune Council heard it and changed occurred.

The CISOM project have been involved and successfully solved 20 cases by intervention/coordination of the NGO partners and CPs.

Indicator 1: Needs of poor people are recognized in the village and commune plans. Plans that are integrated into the district, provincial and national plans at a later stage

A SHGs expressed their concern regarding obtaining land title after the demarcation by Prime Minister Order #001. People repeatedly raised their concerns in every meeting, especially during CIP training sessions organised by the project. As the result, the people got their land titles. The key to the success was that SHG kept on raising their concern; the Commune Council heard it and changed occurred.

Indicator 2: Number and type of group advocacy efforts to address community problems

- The CISOM project have been involved in and successfully solved 20 cases by intervention/coordination of the NGO partners and CPs.

- Illegal logging and illegal hunting: some of the villagers and SHG members have been charged with illegal logging and illegal hunting of wildlife since last year. The fact was that it was another group of villagers who came first into the jungle that committed such offenses. Then they left the crime scene. Later, another group of villagers came into the forest and they were identified as the offenders. Two warrants were already delivered to the villagers. The legal advisor explained that first and second warrants are likely to be considered as the invitation letters, which are quite different from the third warrant which is considered as the arrested warrant. With the intervention from the CISOM project, the cases were diverted from criminal justice system and it was sent to the competence of the commune chief.
- A group of villagers tried to cut a dead log which was located under the river. The government officials from the ministry of forestry stopped the villagers and charged the villagers with the illegal logging. The villagers brought this case to our NGO partner and CISOM legal advisor advised that the people could claim that the villagers just have the rights to the customary use of the products and by-products of the forestry as it is mentioned clearly in the Forestry Law and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Finally, the people were allowed to cut the dead log and bring it to their home for their own use.
- A member of Self Help Group encountered a problem with a broker who bought his land. The broker did not have good faith to make a faithfully deal, because he wanted to get more commission from this agreement. The broker committed forgery on the land selling transaction. The broker made a fake statement by enlarging the current size of the land in order to get more commission from both parties. Fortunately, the case was sent to Legal Advisor for consultation during the training on Legal Advocacy. With the support from the CP, the case was settled successfully within a win-win strategy and the broker had to pay compensation to the land purchaser.
- A family of SHG bought the a plot of land with the recognition from the commune chief but there is another land title from a rich man to claim that they own the same plot of this land. However, it is noticed that the information in the land title is not realisable. It is advised by the legal advisor to seek a copy of the land title of the rich through the court system.
- A domestic violence case was successfully mediated by the leader of the SHG after she got the training from CISOM.
- Additionally, the members of the SHG in Kok Chanrey (plaintiff) are brave enough to claim their land back from the rich family who encroach their land. By going through the training and consultation with CISOM advisor, the commune chief agreed to hand over the land to the plaintiff. However, in Q#4, the case was sent to the court because the rich family was not satisfied with the village chief and he appealed to the provincial court. As the result, the plaintiff and other villagers come to gather around 20 people to meet with the provincial governor. As the result, during the meeting with the provincial governor, he promised to solve the problem by considering the best interest of the farmers. The governor also gave 10000 Rile (2.50USD) to each farmers for travelling back home.
- A land dispute between the villagers and the private company who filled up the land and affecting the farm land of the villagers. With the consultation from the NGO partner, the complaint was lodged to the commune chief and the motion was submitted to the public forum. As the result, the government agreed to give the compensation to the people. Now the case is in the district level for intervention.
- A land dispute between a family and another family was sent to NGO partner for consultation. It is noticed that the staff are able to provide the consultation on some cases.
- A sexual abuse case was happened in this quarter. A daughter of a SHG member is victimized from a sexual abuse committed by her friend while they join the trip to visit tourist site. The case was sent to CISOM and the legal consultation had been advised. Now the case is under the competence of commune chief. The compensation has been offered but it cannot meet the deal since the victim family claim more compensation.
- The land dispute occurred in Boss Tom village between the villagers and the military since the militaries claimed that it is their land and they used it for the military head quarter for the security purpose to protect the border. The dispute affects up to 151 families including some families from other villages nearby. Particularly, 79 families from Boss Thom Village are affecting from the dispute and 120 hectare of their lands are encroached. 80% of the families are the members of SHGs which consist of 20 families. The project coordinated the people to join in the public forum presided by the provincial governor. As the result, the governor promised to solve this problem as soon as possible. However, the dispute still cannot

be solved properly due to the heavy rain and the communication was interrupted. However, the governor promised to meet with the villagers again and solve the problem effectively.

- KBA facilitated the 20 SHG members to join district forum in its target area. Around 320 people join the forum. The forum also discussed about the land case which is encroached by the military. SHG members and commune chief asked the forum to stop the military from land encroachment. It was revealed by the Cadastral Committee that the military had land title but he may build the fence violating the public land. However, the people insisted the military to demolish the fence. Before the forum, KBA offered few training on advocacy to SHG. This is to ensure that the SHG members are well prepared to join the forum.

Indicator 3: Local authorities are aware of the suggestions and priorities developed by the SHGs

- 385 priorities and suggestions are communicated to local authorities
- Poor people have received their land titles.
- The government has granted 700 hectares land size to BakNim dwellers for farming purposes.
- The crime charge against the villagers in BakNim regarding the illegal logging and illegal hunting was diverted from the criminal justice system to commune competence. It is likely that the charges will be lower, with possibility to be dismissed or considering of mitigating circumstances.

Indicator 4: PVDPs have been integrated into Community Integrated Plans and supported by relevant institutions and NGOs through District Integration Planning Workshop (DIPW).

- 15 of 385 priorities needs have been supported at 15 villages level
- 385 priorities needs from 65 villages have been incorporated into CIP. SHG members and associated fellow villagers were able to express their needs with a common voice; priority needs that later on became incorporated into the agenda of local authorities. As the result, the voices of the villagers were heard at high levels.

Assumptions:

Local authority encourages the voices of poor people and acknowledges the influence on decisions at local and provincial level.

This indicator will be further described in the future.

Relevance of output 3.4

CIP is considered as the most important forum where villagers can raise their concerns and priority needs. With the support from CISOM, the villagers are trained and gathered to categorise their proposal to the village chiefs. The result of this approach is positive; proposals of the poor have been raised and incorporated into the government agenda.

Relevance of indicators

Indicators are relevant; however, it is not always to distinguish between indicators of output 3 and 4.

Nr.	Output	Indicator (5)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target

3.4	End 2015, suggestions and priorities of rural poor to the Village, Commune and District Investment Planning have efficiently been communicated to local authorities in ODM by the 3 NGOs and 50 (out of 80) SHGs in ODM	Needs of poor people are recognized in the village and commune plans. Plans that are integrated into the district, provincial and national plans at a later stage.	Priorities recognised – plans integrated	385 needs of the poor were recognized and integrated into the reports at commune level. Investigate integration at district and higher levels.	
		Number and type of group advocacy efforts to address community problems	Number and type of group advocacy	22 cases have been solved and intervened by the NGO partners and CP	
		Local authorities are aware of the suggestions and priorities developed by the SHGs.	Authorities aware	385 suggestions were communicated to local authorities	
		PVDPs have been integrated into Community Integrated Plans and supported by relevant institutions and NGOs through District Integration Planning Workshop (DIPW).	PVDP integrated	15 of 385 priority needs have been supported at village level	

Output 3.5

By 2015, local authorities are aware of the positive results of the SHG and NGO activities in ODM.

CISOM staff and NGO partners keep good dialogue with the government officials on both local and provincial levels. The status and benefit of forming SHG is illustrated to local authorities. They expressed their interest in the SHG and encourage furthering strengthening it in order to make it become good Agricultural Cooperatives in the future.

Indicator 1: Local authorities have visited 80 SHGs, relevant meetings and trainings

- SHGs were visited by village chiefs

Indicator 2: Project activities have been published and promoted in 5 local medias, e.g. newspapers, television and radio in the ODM province.

- The Bak Nim case story is widespread by newspapers and social network
- Cassava case study is also the common advocacy success and it is widespread by local media

Assumptions:

Local authority encourages the voices of poor people and acknowledges the influence on decisions at local and provincial level.

Local authority indeed encourages the voices of poor people and acknowledges their influence

Relevance of output 3.5

Before the project started, an inception workshop was organised to raise the awareness of CISOM project among government and non-government actors. The well-known of SHG performances can attract other government agencies and other NGO. Additionally, the NGO partners also join the NGO network meeting in the province, this enable CISOM to be more aware in the Oddar Meanchey.

Last but not least, in order to become legally recognised CBO, SHGs apply their legality through the local authorities, particularly commune chief. As the result, 100% of SHG successfully applied their applications to commune chiefs and some of them already conducted SHG forum with the commune chief/ councils. Practically, NGO partners, SHG leaders and ADDA/READA staff normally have good cooperation with local authority to implement its activities.

Relevance of indicators

80 SHGs were successfully formed and recognised by the local authorities. 80 SHGs were successfully registered with the commune chiefs.

Nr.	Output	Indicator (2)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
3.5	By 2015, local authorities are aware of the positive results of the SHG and NGO activities in ODM.	Local authorities have visited 80 SHGs, relevant meetings and trainings	80 SHGs	- 80 visit by village chiefs - 80 were successfully registered with CC	
		Project activities have been published and promoted in 5 local medias, e.g. newspapers, television and radio in the ODM province.		BakNim land case story and cassava case widespread by newspapers and social network	

Output 3.6

End 2015, the positive outcome from SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process at village and commune level has been communicated to a wider range of civil society organisations in ODM.

Summary of progress:

NGO partners involved with the government officials in the process of doing CIP and they could use this knowledge to elaborate and transform it to train the SHGs and local authorities. It is a wider range from the bottom (village) to the District levels.

CIDO, RCEDO and KBA attended five workshops on District Integration Planning to make sure that the priority needs of the villagers were integrated at district and provincial levels.

NGO partners regularly join the NGO DANGO network meetings in ODM. This enables relevant stakeholders to have updated information of the results of SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process.

Indicator 1: Relevant stakeholders have received information of the results of SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process

- 925 relevant stakeholders have received information of the results of SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process

Indicator 2: A curriculum for organisational management as well as a monitoring and evaluation guideline

- CIDO, RCEDO and KBA attended five workshops on District Integration Planning to make sure that the priority needs of the villagers were integrated at district and provincial levels

Assumptions:

This indicator will be further described in the future.

Relevance of output 3.6

It is very relevant to secure that SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process at village and commune level is communicated to a wide range of civil society organisations in ODM

Relevance of indicators

It is necessary to further specify and detail “relevant stakeholders”

Nr.	Output	Indicator (2)	Total target lfor CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
3.6	End 2015, the positive outcome from SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process at village and commune level has been communicated to a wider range of civil society organisations in ODM.	Relevant stakeholders have received information of the results of SHG and NGO involvement in the planning process	1300	925	92%
		A curriculum for organisational management as well as a monitoring and evaluation guideline		3 NGO partners participated/observed five workshops to make sure that the priority needs of the villagers were integrated at district and provincial levels	

Output 4.1

By 2015, NGO partners have increased organisational capacity and capacity on human and financial issues related to project management.

Summary of progress

Local partner staffs have been trained on efficient activity planning and follow up, financial and administrative procedures including the use of the QuickBooks bookkeeping IT program. All financial and administrative mechanisms have been set up and are operating smoothly.

Partner staffs, especially the accountants have fine understanding of the financial system and they are capable of recording data and information. They are able to produce the report on time especially they can monitor the flow of budget.

Indicator: *End 2015, NGO partners are trained and they have increased their organisational capacity and capacity on human and financial issues. Likewise, local NGOs have improved standards and performance.*

- 3 accountants have been trained and they have increased capacity on Quick Books

Indicator: *85 % of the trained NGO staff express satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge*

- Directors and core staff of local NGO meet regularly in order to outline best planning and implementation approach related to activities and financial issues are discussed and approved for implementation in ODM. Common financial procedures and management have been adopted by all NGOs. 8 local partner staff (2 from other projects of partner) have been trained on database management and data analysis by using SPSS program.

Assumption 2:

N/A

Relevance of output 4.1

To further consolidate capacity of local NGOs it is very important to further build organisational and financial capacity.

Relevance of indicators

It is relevant that NGO partners, project staff from ADDA/READA are trained on advocacy, legal rights, financial issues and project management.

Nr.	Output	Indicator (2)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
4.1	By 2015, NGO partners have increased organisational capacity and capacity on human and financial issues related to project management	End 2015, NGO partners are trained and they have increased organisational capacity and capacity on human and financial issues	3 accountants trained on Quick Books	3	100% All trainees have been trained accounting system at session 4 th
		and have improved standards and performance	6 staff have been trained on data analysis	6	100% All trainees have been trained accounting system at session 4 th
		85 % of the trained NGO staff express satisfaction and relevance of the training and	5 staff express their satisfaction	6 express their satisfaction	120%

		express that they have gained new knowledge			
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Output 4.2

By 2015, all NGOs in Cambodia have built capacity on the overall concept and specific activities of the CISOM project.

Summary of progress

Directors, accountants and other project staff of the implementing NGO partners have been trained on the CISOM concept during on-the-job training activities e.g. monthly meetings, workshops, meetings, field tours and training sessions with senior local and international staff.

Indicator 1:

End 2015, NGO partners are trained on the overall concept and specific activities of the CISOM project and have successfully applied learning's in ODM.

Directors, accountants and other staff of local NGO staff in ODM have increased capacity on issues listed below:

1. Training session on the CISOM concept, interventions as well as lesson learned during implementation of the IWEF project in Siem Reap
2. Efficient meetings discussing progress, activity plans and addressing challenges
3. FFS/SHG approach, exchange of ideas, addressing challenges and adjusting plans according to opportunities e.g. flooding in ODM.
4. Democratic principles of SHGs, including procedures, structures and protocols.

Indicator 2:

85 % of the trained NGO staff express satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge

- 12 staff have expressed their satisfaction

Assumption:

N/A

Relevance of output

It is important to build capacity on the overall concept and specific activities of the CISOM project in order to streamline the interventions; efficiently implement all successful elements, and to learn from experience.

Relevance of indicators

Training and capacity building on the overall concept and specific activities of the CISOM project is fully relevant and it is important that NGO staff acknowledge training relevance and gain new knowledge.

Nr.	Output	Indicator (2)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
4.2	By 2015, all NGOs in Cambodia have build capacity on the overall concept and specific activities of the CISOM project	End 2015, NGO partners are trained on the overall concept and specific activities of the CISOM project and have successfully applied learning's in ODM	6	6	All trained; however, training on-going

		85 % of the trained NGO staff express satisfaction and relevance of the training and express that they have gained new knowledge	10 staff express their satisfaction	12 staff express their satisfaction	120%

Output 4.3

End of 2015, local INGOs applies major elements of the CISOM concept outside the project focus area.

Summary of progress

The CISOM project approaches are used by the NGO partner, including use of the concept and training materials for other projects in- and outside of the OddarMeanchey province.

Indicator: Major elements of methodology and concepts are applied by NGOs outside specific CISOM geographical areas.

- CIDO, KBA and RCEDO staff trained 3,475 (1,955F) Cambodian soldiers and their family in Pailin province on home gardening during training sessions organized by the Department of Labour and Vocational training and villagers and commune councils in ODM organized by KBA and CIDO,
- CP uses technical knowledge from the CISOM project when training other villagers 665(546F)
- It is a good lesson learned that KBA is having good connection with the farmers in Thailand who are living along Cambodia/ Thailand borders; KBA was invited to be the speakers for a radio live show by Thai Community Radio Station. This is a great opportunity that KBA could share the knowledge from CIAOM to both Cambodia/Thai farmers who are living along the borders. It is reported that this is a popular radio station which it can attract thousand people to listen to this channel.

Assumption:

N/A

Relevance of output 4.3

Best practice of the CISOM approach is widespread and beneficial to a big number of people.

Relevance of indicators

CPs and NGOs partners share their knowledge to the indirect beneficiaries in the approximately of 4140.

Nr.	Output	Indicator (1)	Total target for CISOM	Accumulated achieved	% achieved of target
4.3	End of 2015, local NGOs applies major elements of the CISOM concept outside the project focus areas.	Major elements of methodologies and concepts are applied to outside specific CISOM areas.	10.000 By NGO staff	8,559(4,436F) by NGO staff	86%
			3.000 by CP	1,884 (1,673F) by CP and Farmers	63%

C. Finance report/planning

Total budget during last quarter in Cambodia US \$		Total cumulated budget in Cambodia US \$	
Budget	Realised	Budget	Realised
51,376.00	44,894.00 (included CDP fund \$5,310)	602,820.00	361,384.00

1. Adjustments of the intervention in response to the good advice from the Assessment Committee.

1. Monitor the concrete impact of the project for the indirect beneficiaries.

Other indirect beneficiaries in the target area use the success story from BakNim village regarding land rights. This story was widespread and well known via newspapers, local radio and social network.

Furthermore, two land cases from KokKpos and Rom Chek also offered good lessons to indirect beneficiaries through the public forums they took part in and became aware of the positive feedback from the district level authorities.

It is observed that trained SHG leaders and CPs are able to offer legal consultation and take part in the conflict resolution in some low profile cases.

Farmer field days represent a significant support to indirect beneficiaries, because knowledge and methodology tend to increase agricultural production, productivity, varieties of species etc. It is noticed that a number of participants scaled up production from the home gardening to semi commercial production.

CDPs is a crucial component of the CISOM project, e.g. rice banks bridge the shortage of food especially from July to October, ring wells contribute to family consumption and irrigation of crops during the dry season.

Facilitation of best practice when organizing the public forums attracts local authorities. Particularly commune chiefs, to pay more attention to this event and they seek support from CISOM project to conduct more events in their geographical areas.

2. Follow up on if - and how the intervention of the CISOM project influences the land right issue.

The following activities are planned:

- Write supporting letters promoting the proclamation issued by the Cambodian Government to conduct public forums by the provincial government. Practically, the Project Coordinator and Legal advisor met with the provincial advisor to seek her support as well as learning from her to support the local authorities.
- The dialog with the provincial government should address the process and implementation of public forums. After building the relation at provincial level, the project staff intend to facilitate a fruitful dialogue and act immediately on any change that may occur, update information or situation in OddarMeanchey.
- Consult with the commune councils to assist in organizing forums and request CC to explain beneficiaries about the advantages of land rights. District level authorities are invited to participate. NGO partners, the project coordinator and legal advisor always seek support and intervention from the commune council on the particular case for the interest of the villagers.

- One session for all project staff on best legal approach organized by e.g. Legal rights of Cambodia to outline most efficient processes.
- The most efficient approach for CISOM is to raise voices of the poor and to advocate during public forums, CIP and keep up a regular and fruitful dialogue with commune chiefs and other authorities at higher levels.

2. Monitoring and learning

How has important learning been gathered, systematised and shared?

Staff and core stakeholder's meets regularly during monthly, annually steering committee meetings, and annual partners meetings. Meetings are important to discuss plans and progress, share experience and also to give timely advice on recommended adjustments for the project implementation.

How will it be used in the future by the Danish partner, the South partners and in the partnership?

3. Partnership

Give a specific account of how the intervention has contributed to strengthening the partners and your partnership.

Improved management planning and budgeting have been applied and the specific training provided to partners has strengthened the CISOM partnership. Reflections/recommendations regarding strengthening of communication, partner ownership and specific comments/advice to improve quality of project implementation among the 5 NGOs have further developed the partnership.

ANNEX 1. CISU Comments during project preparation

Mail and comments from CISU:

We have initiated the assessment of ADDA's application regarding the project: "Empowerment of Civil Societies in Oddar Meanchay, Cambodia (CISOM)". In this connection we would ask you to clarify the following issues raised by the Danish Embassy (See attachment):

1. Siem Reap: A short summary of the results and lessons learned from the IWEP relevant for the new project. Related to the comments from the Embassy we ask you to draw special attention to the following issues raised in paragraph 3:

- Access to the market;
- Influence on local decisions;
- The sustainability of the activities.

2. Land rights: Please comment on the last paragraph regarding land issues.

The reply must not exceed 3 pages (excl. annexes) and must be e-mailed to the undersigned and to all recipients of this e-mail not later than 12th of November 2012. A revised project document with track changes or similar marking of the changes and a revised budget must be attached.

Please contact CISU if you have any questions or doubts regarding the above mentioned issues.

(Kindly confirm the receipt of this e-mail)

Best regards,
Bente Østergaard Madsen
Assessment Consultant - the Project Fund

Comments from the Danish Embassy/representation in Cambodia to the CISOM project proposal

The choice of project areas - village in Oddar Meanchey province - seems obvious, since the communities in these areas are among the poorest in the country and they receive relatively little support from NGOs

What exactly is the focus? Poverty reduction? Capacity building in advocacy? Improving the status of women in local communities? The proposal seems to embrace a lot. How will the project meet basic - and interrelated - challenges (low income, lack of market access, land conflicts / land theft, lack of access to decision-making, women's low position, etc.) and fulfil requirement to present measurable results after 3 years?

It would be useful with a clearer description of the lessons learned from the IWEP project, including efforts to improve market access for the poorest populations and their influence on local decision-making processes. How can these improvements be measured? What is the experience of the IWEP sustainability? It should have seen clearer in the project application, the extent to which lessons learned were taken into consideration during the CISOM design phase (se ansøgning).

It could be useful with a gradient of risk factors on page 23 of the application. Prime Minister Hun Sen announced in May this year a moratorium on the distribution of new land concessions and has launched the a new Directive to resolve land conflicts. It could be useful with a brief description of land Directive preliminary influence in the project areas (to the extent there is any influence). Many communities in Oddar Meanchey province have in recent years been plagued by conflicts with the military on access to land and other natural resources. Has the project areas been affected by such conflicts?

Short summary of the results and lessons learned from the IWEP relevant for the new project. 86 SHGs were formed during the first phase of IWEP (2006-2009) while another 60 have been formed during the second phase from (2009-2013). Main lessons learned from implementation of IWEP I and II:

- Living conditions and food security of the beneficiaries, their families as well as farmers living nearby have significantly improved in the five districts and 110 villages supported by IWEP in Siem Reap Province. There is an efficient 'spread effect' to secondary beneficiaries. It is estimated that the project has benefitted more than 25,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries.
- Poverty of the direct beneficiaries has reduced by 50% and income of the poor has increased by 51% in average according to external impact assessment.
- Income has increased from agricultural income generation, because products are better marketed at the local markets, group or individual micro businesses are established e.g. Self Help Groups (SHGs) have established micro businesses buying and selling of agricultural inputs, basket production etc. Income is also improved from reduced interest payments on rice and money debts, because group members are borrowing from their own SHG capital.
- The positive results are closely linked to the establishment of SHGs. SHGs contributes to build up social capital of the poor, reduce exclusion and promote gender equity.
- Four Agricultural Cooperatives (ACs) have been formed with a total of 202 members from 43 SHGs. Commune Councils as well as the Department of Agriculture in Siem Reap has strongly supported and approved the formation of ACs
- Farmer Field Schools (FFS) has proven to be an efficient way to mobilize the poor communities and FFS significantly impacts the agricultural sector by diversification and intensification of crop production. Vegetable production has increased by 40% and poultry production by 30%. Overall productivity has improved by 50-70% when comparing 2010 to year 2004. These figures are according to the external impact assessment from 2010.
- Positive environmental and climatic effects are reached, because (i) the use of hazardous pesticides has been reduced by 26% whereas use of (ii) organic fertilizers and bio-pesticides has increased (40 and 88% respectively) and (iii) overall productivity has improved.
- The capacity of partners regarding project management, agriculture, marketing, gender, leadership, sustainability issues, building of strong and democratic SHGs and basic civil society organisations has increased significantly during project implementation.
- The committee and members of the SHGs have acquired leadership skills, they are able to debate and they have gained valuable democratic experience from decision making within their groups. Most members are able to express themselves in front of the group. This empowerment is used within their communities and they are very active advocating for improved living conditions within their local communities. SHG members are elected and/or they have their voices heard in village and commune councils.

The IWEP strategy combining agricultural training with development of civil society structures in the poor villages has now been adopted by a number international aid organisations and local NGOs in Siem Reap.

Access to the market

Access to market of farmers' produces is an important part of IWEP's intervention to ensure that farmer products meet the demand of market and to ensure a fair pricing of their products. Normally farmers are primarily producing for home consumption. Any surplus is sold to the local market directly or through local collectors and middlemen at low prices. Project beneficiaries have built capacity on how to utilise improved sales channels, how to collect market information, how to improve grading, shelf life and logistics and how to reach a fair pricing of their products. This has strongly improved market transparency, production planning as well as negotiation capacity of the IWEP beneficiaries when selling their vegetables/crops and/or purchasing agricultural inputs for their production. Tangible market information is made available to SHG members, because (1) SHG/AC members systematically collects information on product demand and especially selling prices at different markets places and compiles such information to be used during negotiation of selling (or buying) prices (2) Market information on vegetables is also made accessible for farmers via mobile phone through SMS or by radio or TV in close cooperation with the Cambodia Marketing Improvement Project (CAMIP).

IWEP has extracted and disseminated market information from Provincial Department of Agriculture and the CAMIP to producers. Updated marketing information on 12 varieties of vegetables and agricultural inputs has been disseminated to and discussed within all SHGs. Pricing of 12 vegetables in 3 consecutive years has been gathered and market habit has been discussed with SHGs for members to evaluate seasonality, production opportunities and challenges. This endeavour has successfully improved production planning of farmers and their market access. Networking between the SHGs and the private sectors has also improved market opportunities and sales channels of SHGs which has boosted the production of vegetables, other crops and small livestock in the SHGs. One of the goals of the newly established agriculture cooperatives is to further improve market access and to further support contract farming as a means to improve marketing of farmer produce.

Influence on local decisions

IWEP has built enhanced advocacy power of the NGO partners and 146 SHGs in ODM which has resulted in increasingly influence on local and provincial decision making regarding rural development and livelihood of poor people. The capacity of SHGs has been build and they have become well-functioning civil society organizations with significant advocacy power. Women have become effective leaders - not only within their groups - but they have also taken a leadership role within their local communities advocating for e.g. women's rights, improved infrastructure, better and equal access to water and irrigation opportunities. One hundred and thirty nine (139) out of 146 Self Help Group leaders are women. They are actively advocating within their communities and the majority has established an efficient interaction with village and commune councils. Commune councils recognise the women leaders in their community and they appreciate their participation in monthly commune council meeting. Many commune councils have responded effectively to the demands and recommendations of SHGs. It is expected that SHG leaders will be further encouraged to seek influence during the next National Election, because women participation in local committees/councils has national priority.

All experienced SHG committees – app. 90 SHGs - are actively debating and participating during the development of village and commune development planning. Major reported outputs from their participation during the planning process include influence on improvement of roads, water ponds, children's education, health, precautions regarding domestic violence etc. Provincial Department of Woman Affairs and Provincial Department of Agriculture in Siem Reap acknowledge the influence of civil society organisations representing villagers during planning processes.

The Agricultural Cooperatives (ACs) formed are entering into an an effective dialog and they are increasingly influencing development partners and public authorities at village, district and provincial level.

Sustainability of the activities

2.500 households (representing app. 15.000 people) have increased their income due to enhanced agricultural techniques and membership of a SHG. A total of 3.000 participants have been trained during Farmer Field days and Focus Training sessions on enhanced agricultural production and the advantages/benefits of SHGs/civil society organisations. 143 SHGs have developed into basic civil society organisations officially recognised CBOs. Recent assessment reveals that 80-90 % of the SHG established will continue their activities after termination of the IWEP project, because the SHG members have established a regular habit of saving funds (a total of 170.000 US \$ have been saved) and the SHGs have developed into democratic forums where members are able to discuss challenges, outline group dreams/visions and to acquire knowledge of local governance frameworks. SHGs have developed tremendously to become forums where the poor have their voices heard internally and their voices are expressed towards village and commune councils. The IWEP beneficiary's underlines that they want to continue their SHG activities, because their saving schemes are providing funding for individual loans, funding for micro business activities and providing security against social shocks. The establishment of small community development projects e.g. 35 rice banks with app. 700 member families – comprising the poorest of the poor –, water ponds and ring wells are also very important and sustainable activities, because they secure food for poor during the dry season where they normally borrow money or rice from “the rich men in the village”.

Partners of ADDA – Rural Economic and Agricultural Development Agency (READA) and Shrer Khmer - have built capacity to facilitate projects with strong emphasis on the development of democratic civil society organisations and their interaction within local communities which is influencing decision making regarding priority issues of the poor. Major elements of the FFS, SHG and advocacy strategy of the IWEP concept is applied outside the project focus areas.

Local and provincial authorities in Siem Reap are aware of the benefits of collaborating with civil society organisations to include priorities of the poor into District Integration Planning. Activities and interaction of SHGs and the Agricultural Cooperatives with governmental structures at all levels strongly contribute to the sustainability of the IWEP activities. These civil society organizations are dedicated to continue to their activities because they significantly improve livelihood of their members – poor people.

Land right

The implementation of the Prime Minister's Directive on land title issuance was launched in June 2012. Great achievements have been made by “Volunteer Youth Groups”, and official land title certificates have been distributed by Prime Minister Hun Sen in Kampong Cham, Kratie, Pursat Provinces etc.

Volunteer Youth Groups have also initiated the demarcation of disputed land in OddarMeanchey Province in July 2012 and thousands of pieces of land have already been measured and demarcated in both economic land concessions and social land concessions (civil settlements/housing). Some of the new villages in ODM - where farmers have settled - without official recognition are located in the economic land concession areas that have been measured and demarcated. However, documents have now been prepared for official recognition of these villages. This has a positive impact on the livelihood of farmers, because they have improved their legal status and they do not fear from losing their land. This is an important step towards a sustainable development in ODM because farmers are on the way to attain official land titles and they can work productively on their land. The ceremony to officially deliver the land title certificates is planned to take place in December 2012.

There have been many conflicts between villagers and local authorities, the military and companies regarding access to land and other resources, .e.g. conflicts regarding forests products due to the fact that OddarMeanchay is the newest province of Cambodia. The new land directive issued by the Prime Minister is considered a powerful means to solve these conflicts in the rural areas of ODM and it is a positive sign toward a more sustainable development.

However, land rights issues are not fully solved all over ODM province and it is not fully solved in the project area of CISOM. Approximately 3,000 hectares of land in 5 villages of BanteayAmpil district are affected by this conflict (reference is made to annex 1 for a more detailed description). Following the release of the new land directive, Volunteer Youth Groups were sent to the area to define and demarcate land, villages and military zone boundaries which is promoting a peaceful solution to the conflict. New military zones - or new land to be distributed to the military - are only allowed where it does not overlap with the existing land of the farmers according to regulations of The Royal Government of Cambodia. This means that lands where farmers used to farm or live, will be given to the farmers (and farmers/settlers will subsequently live together with the military, but they are not forced to move out to other areas). Only few conflicts and interventions have been reported in other districts of ODM, but there are additional farmers and settlers, who are affected by uncertain land rights. However, it is expected by the communities that the interventions of the CISOM project would contribute to empower people to claim their rights and make their voices heard.

Closing remarks

Lessons learned in Siem Reap have been fully taken into consideration during the design phase of CISOM. However, it should be underlined that CISOM is designed with a stronger emphasis on advocacy and influence on local decisions. It must be underlined that the objectives of the Integrated Woman Empowerment Project will be fully reached according to defined indicators and means of verification, but the immediate objectives and main outputs of CISOM and IWEP are not identical.

The strategy of CISOM is based on well functioning activities and best results of the IWEP as well as other ADDA projects in Siem Reap (e.g. “Livelihood Enhancement & Association of the Poor”, (LEAP) and “Innovative approaches to food insecurity for urban and peri- urban poor in Siem Reap”, (INFOSE). CISOM is designed with a strong, measurable and realistic focus on civil society development – fully in line with the DANIDA strategy.

Annex A: CISOM's target districts and status of land conflicts

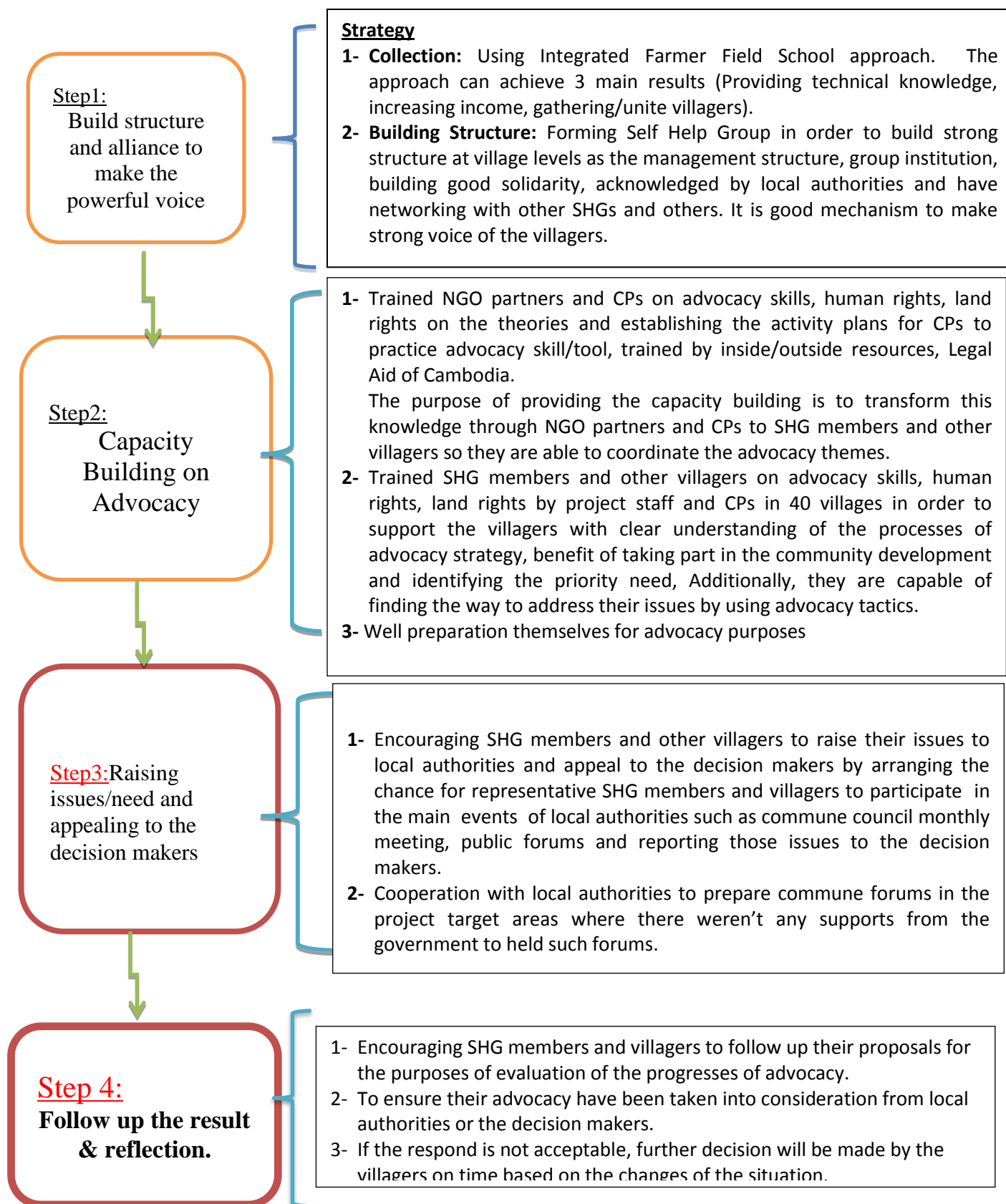
No	Target District	Area of partner NGO:	Land conflict status	Other natural resources	Actions*
1	Banteay Ampil	CIDO	Conflict between villagers and the military in 5 villages. The conflict involves app. 3,000 ha.	Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to the new Directive of Prime Minister, Volunteer Youth Groups have been stationed in this area and aimed to demarcate the land for the establishment of the concrete land title. As the dispute happened, the demarcation could not be done. - Complaint had been filed. - District chief supports the case and promised to follow up it after harvest season. - Training on land right and advocacy were offered to the CPs and staff to combat the dispute. - Legal consultation with CISOM team - Raising issues in the public forum - Raising the issue in SHG forum - On January 03, 2015, the people gathered together to meet with the District Chief for intervention. The District Chief promised to investigate the case strictly. However, the result was up in the air since it is beyond his capacity. - On January 06, 2015, as promised, District Chief, Mr. Ham Meng, visited the people and collect the information. As the result, the complaint was sent to the provincial level by the District Chief. - Later on, the people keep raising this issue among SHG members and keep consulting with CISOM. CIDO coordinated the people to conduct various forums such as SHG forum and public forum. This is an advocacy tactic to monitor and repeat their voice to the government. The purpose is to push the government to speed up their petition. - On August 11, 2015, CIDO coordinated the people to join in the public forum presided by the Provincial Governor. As the result, the people raised this issue again and the governor promised to solve this problem as soon as possible. The event also invited the opponent party, soldier representative, Mr Mok. Sovann, to join the event. However, the dispute still cannot be solved properly due to the heavy rain and the communication was interrupted. The governor promised to meet with the villagers again and solve the problem successfully. - Advocacy through public forum can be considered as the effective ways since the voice of the people are heard widely. Additionally, solving land dispute with military should be done strategically and peacefully.

					Seeking upper level of government support is the best tactic to put pressure on the land grabber.
2	Samrong	RCEDO	246 families are affected by a land conflict with the Forestry Committee. The conflict involves app. 3,000 ha.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal consultation - Raising issues in the public forum - Complaint have been filed - District chief supports the case and promised to follow up it after harvest season - Training on land right and d advocacy were offers to the CP and staff to combat the case - Arranging series of meetings with the commune chief to ensure that: i;the rights of villagers are respected and ii, the crime charges against the villagers have to be dropped. - Coordinating villagers to join in the Public Forum on August 26, 2014. - As the result, about one month later, the government grants the land to the villager for purpose of farming. The crime charged against the villagers was dropped. - In conclusion, one part of the dispute was settled as the people can access get the farm land. - Another part of the dispute is that people need to get full rights to access to forest products and by-products consistent with traditional family uses. Additionally, the people also want the Forestry Community leader to cut some part of the land from the Forestry Community Land to the villagers. This dispute is still going on.
3	Chong Kal	RCEDO	104 families in a village of Chong Kal have a conflict with the Natural Resource Committee. <u>However, it is not within the CISOM's target area.</u>	Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on land rights and advocacy were offered to the CPs and staff to combat the dispute - Villagers brought their cases to the public forum. - Through CIP, people raised the proposal to access fair customary uses of the forest. - As the case is not in CISOM's target area, RCEDO gets less information about this case and less intervention had been taken. - Further information will be obtained through Commune Chief or Village Chief.

4	Trapan gPrasat	KBA	Farmers in a village have a land conflict with a Rubber Company.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many training on right and legal issues were provided including the legal consultation was offered - Through CIP processes, people propose the land solution to the local authorities. - Through SHG meeting, commune forum and CIP the people keep raising this issue to the village chief and commune chief, the case was settled successfully. The people can access their land normally. - The case is closed now.
5	Anlong Veng	KBA	Farmers in a village have conflict with a Rubber Company.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to the new Directive of Prime Minister, Volunteer Youth Groups have been stationed in this area and aimed to demarcate the land for the establishment of the concrete land title. Through, the public forum, the people raise their concerns and the case was taken into consideration and the commune chief agreed to follow As the result, the people got their land title - The case is closed now. up the case.

**** It is expected by the communities that the interventions of the CISOM project would contribute to empower people to claim their rights and make their voices heard.***

ANNEX 2. Advocacy road map



Is there an Annex 3?

Annex 4: Advocacy – plans, progress and success stories

In this reporting period (Q4, 2014), the project aimed to strengthening deeper advocacy tactics and further strengthening of the SHGs. A refreshing training on these topics have been made in order to provide deeper understanding of the NGO partners and CPs. This course followed training on advocacy skill conducted by the professional trainer from legal NGO, Legal Aid of Cambodia in the previous quarter. The presentation focused on Sporadic Land Registration and Land Dispute Resolution.

The presentation improved knowledge of the NGOs partners. ADDA/READA staff provided short presentations regarding the rights of people to participate in the public forum by quoting some articles from the constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The guiding documents to conduct forum were provided and discussed, because thewe believe that public forum is one of the most appropriate mechanisms to strengthen relevant and efficient advocacy on behalf of – and by poor people. We did not only provide this knowledge to the partners and CPs but we, CPs and staff transform this knowledge to the SHG members and villagers. One of the big achievements regarding advocacy work is that the villagers acquired knowledge, they feel confident about their rights, and they are brave enough to bring their concerns to the attention of the authorities. Advocacy is highly likely to be one of the effective ways to help the people without violence.

The advocacy strategy outlined during the training on Commune Investment Plan to the SHG members and key persons has proven to be very effective. For instance, one of our SHGs expressed their concern regarding obtaining land title after the demarcation by Prime Minister Order #001. People repeatedly raised their concerns in every meeting, especially during CIP training sessions organised by the project. As the result, the people got their land titles. The key to the success was that SHG kept on raising their concern; the Commune Council heard it and changed occurred.

CIP training conducted in one of the village where the land dispute occurred, the people described their concerns regarding their land dispute to relevant authorities and us. Later on, the local authorities promised to support the people to settle this case. Meanwhile, the project staff with technical support from Legal Advisor accompanied by the partner staff carried out a fact finding in order to support the villagers. After conducting the fact-finding and legal analysis; the advocacy strategies were as following: (i); arrange series of meetings with the commune chief to ensure that the rights of villagers are respected and the crime charges against the villagers regarding the illegal logging and illegal hunting are dismissed. (ii); coordinating to get people to join in the Public Forum organized by the government.

As the result, huge achievements have been reached. The city governor recognizes and ensures that the traditional user rights for villagers' living will be protected. People can have access to other forest products and by-products, which is consistent with the traditional family use. The governor will intervene to enable the local communities living within or near these community forests to have better access to forest products and by-products fairly. About one month later, the government grants the new decision offering 700 hectares land size to BakNim dwellers for farming purposes. The crime charge against the villagers in BakNim regarding the illegal logging and illegal hunting diverted from the criminal justice system to commune competence. It is likely that the charges will be lower, with possibility to be dismissed or considering of mitigating circumstances.

With such achievements from advocacy SHG members, villagers and partners have become convinced that it is worth to fight for their rights. They are encouraged and brave to join other government; some of them have “a big picture” in their mind; they are able cope with their challenges and to change unjust by their own effort.

A ToT on Legal aspects of Advocacy and SHGs management has been conducted. NGOs Partners and CPs are confident and have better understanding on their advocacy work to promote human rights and rights to land in their target areas. Additionally, they apply advocacy tactics to support SHGs and target villagers. Further knowledge on managerial skills are used to strengthen the capacity of the SHGs with the improvement of their communication and coordination within SHGs members.

Furthermore, the concept of alternative dispute resolution was offered to several SHGs. It is a useful methodology to manage the problem and conflicts. Strengthening the book keeping and financial reporting skills were also the part

of the training since it is very crucial to make the SHGs more transparency. It is observed that, through pre-post test, around 70% of their knowledge is increased, comparing to their previous knowledge on the training topics.

As the result from this ToT, the NGO partner staff have conducted the advocacy training to SHGs members which benefit more and more villagers after the ToT training was offered by ADDA/READA advisors.

Land disputes have been successfully solved through a series of on-the-job training on legal aspects of advocacy and training of Community Professionals (CP). Legal disputes/cases have been settled successfully by a win-win strategy arising from initial discussions within SHGs. Several examples exist and are detailed in the descriptions below.

Resolution facilitated by the Community Professional was highlighted on a dispute that arises between a villager and a broker. This impact is considered as a great strategy of CISOM project. The dispute began in 2007; however, a solution or intervention could not be elaborated due to the lack of means, supports and intervention from the local authorities. The land owner is a farmer and a member of a Self Help Group and he encountered a problem with a broker who helped selling his land. The broker committed forgery to the land owner and the purchaser because he wanted to get more commission from the transaction. The broker produced the fake information in order to get the approval from the authorities who have the competence to approve the selling process. The broker made a fake statement by enlarging the current size of the land in order to get more commission from both parties. The purchaser sued the land owner. Fortunately, he is a member of SHGs and brought this issue into discussion with the SHG members. Later on, the case was sent to the CISOM Legal Advisor for legal consultation during a training session on Legal Advocacy. With the support from CP, the landowner was advised to take the issue to local authorities. As the results, the case was settled successfully by a win-win strategy and the broker had to pay some money to the land purchaser. It is fortunate that the land owner is the member of SHG.

Forming SHG is a great mechanism to unite the villagers to have a common voice and to cope with the challenges in their communities effectively. For instance, with the coordination of a Community Professional, the villagers and the leaders of SHG constructed a 500 meter road within 30 days by sharing of costs and energy in terms of labor. A CISOM CP strongly supported the SHG members and other villagers to build this road using a successful approach. The road used to be an important road for the people to bring their products to the market, but lately, its condition was terrible. The villagers could not access this road at all, but this changed with the intervention of the SHG and the CP.

Similarly, with same CP's coordination, the villagers and other members of SHGs, constructed a bridge, 30 meter long and 1.5 meter wide, across a canal in the village successfully. The villagers used to cross this canal by boat and if the people want to bring their products to the market they have to change the direction which was very far comparing to the current direction. As the result, the people can have a bridge through SHGs.

In conclusion, by seeing such achievement, it makes the people feel very proud of being members of SHGs, particularly through the unity of the people by sharing budget and energy to achieve the significant products in the village. Additionally, this road and bridge do not just make the people in the village happy but it also bring more attraction to the villagers in the villages nearby, especially their impression of the unity of the SHG members.

A public forum was conducted on November 21, 2014. Several hundred villagers in the forum organized by the commune chief with the support of CIDO and the ADDA/READA partnership. Issues regarding land forestry, health, education and infrastructure were discussed. The local government learned that soldiers are kept nearby the forest to improve security and to protect the borders to avoid land encroachment and illegal logging within the community forestry. To ensure the protection more effectively, we will demarcate clear boundaries of the community forestry in order to distinguish it from the forest and military. Additionally, the local government promised the villagers that the clear demarcation of the boundary of the community forest will be done after the harvest season is over. Furthermore, the land encroachment by wealthy persons on some part of the community land, which is reserved to be the location for public school, will be solved via Cadastral Commission. The complaint has been filed and the commune chief promised to follow up the complaint. Regarding health, education and infrastructural issues, the representatives of the government agreed to offer better service and commit to fulfill the need of the villagers.

Besides conducting the public forum in partnership with the government, the NGO partners also coordinated the SHGs members to join the other public forums conducted by the government. As the result KBA and RCEDO facilitated their SHGs members to join the different public forums where the topics were raised about public budget management for local government and other land issues. By monitoring this event, it enables the NGOs partners to have close cooperation with the local government and make more opportunity for them to organize further public forums or convey the concerns of the villagers to them as whole.

It is observed that the attitude of local government has changed; they have become more cooperatives and they are willing to cooperate with the CISOM project interventions on legal rights, advocacy (the phrase “advocacy” is however not widely accepted) and our NGOs partners because we believe that working with them is more productive than putting the pressure on them. One of the tactics is that the Project Coordinator and Legal Advisor keep dialogue with the provincial government and bring what we consult with them to the local authorities and help them with the implementation. Additionally, the tactic of using the existing experiences of ADDA in Siem Reap and using supporting document from upper levels are considered as the effective way to lobby the government official in Oddar Meanchey. For instance, lack of the documents/information is the main cause of the reluctance of the activities implementation. In order to overcome this challenge, Project Coordinator and Legal Advisor always seek to provide most important documents/information for both our partners and local governments to encourage them to do what they supposed to do.

On the other hand, the voices of the poor people are heard by the local authorities and the poor people know how to express their need and concerns to the local authorities. Violence is avoided because the concepts of the training were absorbed to change their attitudes.