Forest Rice Farming and Contract Farming in Preah Vihear Province

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When Forest Rice Farming meets Contract Farming...
Background of rice sector in Cambodia

• 80% of Cambodian farmers grow rice.
• 12th largest rice producer with 8.25 million tonnes (2010) with annual growth rate of 7.4%.
• With preferential access to the EU market, exports of conventional rice to Europe have increased.
• High standard of international certification had been a burden for organic rice for export.
About Preah Vihear Province

- UNESCO World Heritage site Preah Vihear Temple (11th century)
- One of the least populated and well forested
- One of the poorest
- Ethnic hill tribes
Traditional Organic Rice Production in Preah Vihear Province

- Ethnic minority used to live in highlands.
- Migrated people started to clear forest for rice cultivation.
- Rain fed, low land.
- Traditional white rice variety has been grown until Jasmine Rice has been introduced recently.
- Some farmers started to practice ploughing only recently.
- About 70% practice direct seeding for forest farming.
Traditional Organic Rice Production in Preah Vihear Province

• Their rice field is sometimes 10-15km (1-2 hours drive) away from their house in the village.
• Farmers stay in the hut near the field with their family in busy season.
• Forest also provides farmers wild plants and wild animals for income generation.
• Farmers are not quite aware of the benefit of agroforestry.
• De facto organic, not necessary by choice.
“Forest Rice Farming” or Agroforestry practices in rice-production

- Trees in rice-production landscapes can contribute to improving local socio-economic and environmental conditions.
- Strengthen farmer’s resilience to climate change

from FAO “Agroforestry in rice-production landscapes in Southeast Asia”
Contract Farming of Organic Rice in Preah Vihear Province

2013-2018

26 AC

7AC

Union in Preah Vihear

Contract / Supply

Capacity Building

Organic Standard Training
ICS (Internal Control System) Training
Business Management Support
Provide tree seedling

Inspection

Apply
Result of the targeted AC in 2017

• From 7 AC (Agriculture Cooperative) of our target
• 1,906 ha of 679 producers were certified organic.
• 509 producers supplied the total of 1,350 tons of paddy resulted in the total sale of $368,578 ($0.27/Kg).
• Premium was about 10-20%.
Working Together

Support Smallholder farmers with Sustainable Agriculture

Agriculture Cooperative  Private Sector / Buyer
Development Sector  Government