

Objective

This project aims to produce an innovative model of agricultural extension founded on expanding enabling social relations, which will complement and/or replace existing models of extension based on the provision of technology, capital, and information.

The objectives are to:

- Broaden extension outcomes for small-scale, less affluent, and vulnerable farmers and their households.
- Expand the social relations needed across the participating smallholder households in Northwest Cambodia to successfully and lastingly implement new practices.
- Measure the knowledge-practices of women farmers and women within farming households through analysis of household dynamics and engagement.
- Determine whether our project partners understandings of agricultural extension evolve in response to involvement in a project founded on social relations.

Expected scientific results

- Reconceptualise agricultural extension drawn from the context of the gendered knowledge-practices of smallholder households in the case study area and guided by an appreciation for the spatial distribution of enabling and disabling social relations.
- Provide a comparative analysis of competing models of extension.
- Provide new insights into the comparative advantage of different extension models and methods, enabling the entire sector to direct its activities more efficiently.
- Reformulate the practice of extension by extending smallholders' connections with enabling individuals and organisations, which will be followed by empirical analysis and comparison of perceived and material impacts, including the primary and secondary impacts of past provisionist extension versus extension via social relations

Expected impact/outcomes

- Complement and/or replace the globally dominant but limited agricultural extension model reliant on transferring technology capital and information.
- Confirm or refute that existing provisionist methods have significant but under-recognised impacts.
- Address significant gaps in understanding agricultural extension in Cambodia and Southeast Asia.

