

Strengthening the Cambodian and Australian vegetable industries through adoption of improved production and postharvest practices



Key details

Location

Cambodia

Duration

Start Jun 2010

End Aug 2013

Budget

AUD 1,089,150

Commissioned organisation

Department of Primary Industries, Australia

Partners

Applied Horticultural Research; Cambodia Agricultural Research and Development Institute; Charles Sturt University; General Directorate of Agriculture; Industry & Investment NSW; ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE; The World Vegetable Center

Project Leader

Suzie Newman - Department of Primary Industries

Program

Horticulture

Project code

HORT/2006/107

Past ACIAR-funded research (HORT/2003/045) has identified improved vegetable varieties, production improvements and postharvest management practices to increase production and reduce post-production losses. These outcomes were disseminated under this project, jointly funded by ACIAR and the Cambodian Agriculture Value Chain (CAVAC) Program, funded by AusAID.

Farmers in Kampong Thom, Takeo and Kampot provinces, were targeted through field schools, on-farm demonstrations and the dissemination of fact sheets. Linkages to other CAVAC activities included training of trainers and extension staff, farmer workshops and field days. The project also linked with CAVAC's business development component to analyse value chains and identify new market opportunities for vegetable growers and smallholders.

Australian project partners also worked with vegetable growers from a non-English speaking background operating in Australia, to understand the gaps in education and produce a suite of materials suitable for extension to that group.



ACIAR



Overview

Cambodia is a net importer of vegetables, with total production falling at least 25 per cent short of demand. This shortfall has resulted in vegetable consumption being amongst the lowest in Asia. Each year a minimum of 60,000 tonnes are imported to supplement this production.