

Strengthening the Climate Resilience of Agricultural Systems in Cambodia and Viet Nam (CRAS)

Project name	“Strengthening the resilience of poor population groups to climate change in selected ASEAN states, taking special account of the impact of COVID-19 in Cambodia and Viet Nam”
Commissioned and co-financed by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Cambodia (Kampong Thom, and Kratie) Viet Nam (Son La, Dien Bien)
Approved Budget	EUR 6 million
Project Duration	March 2021 – February 2024
Lead executing agency	Cambodia: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) Viet Nam: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

Project overview

GIZ CRAS focuses on „Strengthening the resilience of poor population groups to climate change in selected ASEAN states, taking special account of the impact of COVID-19 in Cambodia and Viet Nam“. The project is cooperating with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) in Cambodia and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in Viet Nam. CRAS is designed to support value chain actors in particular smallholder farmers of cassava and cashew in Cambodia, as well as coffee (farmers) in Viet Nam. The project is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) from March 2021 to February 2024 with a contribution of up to six Million Euro.

Background

Agriculture is one of the biggest employment sources in Cambodia and Viet Nam. Over 70% of the population are directly, or indirectly involved in the production of agricultural goods. Crop failures because of droughts in the dry- and flooding during the rainy-season or rime during cold spells with its high precipitation pose major challenge for producers.

In addition to the ongoing risks posed by the changing climate, smallholder producers are now struggling to cope with the restrictions on trade in ASEAN countries that came into effect due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Target Group

CRAS is working with different actors along the value chain, focusing on smallholder famers in Cambodia and Viet Nam. The selection criteria for the target groups are poverty aspects and high climate vulnerability. Therefore, the project is mainly working in Kampong Thom and Kratie (KH), as well as Son La and Dien Bien (VN). The project is particularly focusing on the empowerment of women in the determined target area.

Private actors, especially traders and processors are linking farmers and consumers and therefore have direct impact on applying quality standards concerning agricultural products.



Fields of Action

1. **Improving the competence of smallholder farmers concerning the application of climate resilient practices.** Successful climate resilient practices will be disseminated utilizing cooperation agreements with private sector players. The target is to integrate climate resilient production techniques for selected crops (cassava, cashew nuts and coffee) in local extension structures.
2. **Improving cooperation between producer and private sector actors,** under the consideration of climate resilient production aspects. This target will be achieved setting up cooperation contracts between farmers and private sector stakeholders considering social and ecological standards. Established contracts will function as models for future collaborations between farmers and private actors promoting sustainable production and high-quality market standards.
3. **Strengthening the technical capacity of public and private sector stakeholders concerning climate resilience.** By cooperating with universities and other research institutes in the target areas, the project aims to ensure the ongoing provision of research results and climate data on national and regional platforms.
4. **Informing public and private sector stakeholders on scalable measures on climate resilience,** in the selected value chains. National level experience gained during the project will be shared at regional level in bi- and multilateral meetings. Therefore, existing platforms, specialist associations and other ASEAN (Associa-

tion of Southeast Asian Nations) working groups will be mobilized for regional learning.



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