



## Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

SANREM CRSP  
Office of International Research, Education and Development  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (0378)  
526 Price's Fork Road, Room 211  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Phone: (540) 231-1230  
Fax: (540) 231-1402  
sanrem@vt.edu  
[www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp](http://www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp)

### Trip Report to Cambodia and the Philippines 6-12 June 2010

Manuel Reyes and Osei Yeboah, North Carolina A&T State University,  
Victor Ella and Helen Dayo from the University of the Philippines Los Baños,  
and Agustin Mercado, Landcare Foundation of the Philippines Inc.

- Purposes of Trip:**
- (1) To visit conservation agriculture production system (CAPS) research plots in Cambodia;
  - (2) To interact with partners in Cambodia and discuss CAPS treatments with farmers and scientists;
  - (3) To learn from CAPS research conducted in Cambodia since 2004;
  - (4) To consult with Cambodian partners for possible CAPS treatments in the Philippines and also CAPS machinery for small farmers; and
  - (5) To meet with USAID-MISSIONS-Cambodia and the Philippines and discuss the SANREM project in both countries.

- Sites Visited:**
- Cambodia: Phnom Penh, USAID-MISSIONS and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Food, June 7; Rattanak Mondul, Batambang, June 8-9; and Kampong Cham, June 10-11.  
Philippines: USAID MISSIONS-Philippines, June 15; and Claveria, Misamis Occidental, Mindanao Philippines, June 16-18.

**Description of activities:**

Stephane Boulakia, Cambodia host country coordinator and Reyes met with Curtis Hundley from DAI to explore some possibility of partnership with DAI. The team with Boulakia visited USAID-MISSIONS-Cambodia. We met with four USAID-MISSIONS-staff. We explained the Cambodia CAPS project funded by SANREM. It was connected with a proposed recommendation and plan for agricultural rural development in Cambodia based on CAPS. Electronic copies of powerpoint presentations were given to USAID. USAID-MISSIONS relayed about Harvest and its possible linkage with SANREM. During lunch Reyes met with Philip Charlesworth and Michael Roberts of the International Development Enterprise and discussed possible partnership in a HORT-CRSP pre-proposal. In the afternoon we met with staff of MAFF and faculty from the Royal University of Agriculture. We discussed the project

and discussed roles of each institution in project implementation. Reyes also met a faculty of RUA, Mr. Lyda Hok, a soil scientist who will be recommended to take a Ph.D. in Energy and the Environment at NCA&T and will be funded by SANREM.

In Batambang, we met with several farmers both women and men and discussed CAPS with them. The discussion was conducted in Cambodian language with some English translations. Cropping systems were suggested by farmers and an extended question and answer to know the farmers' views was conducted. We also looked at CAPS machineries that were being used in research and farmer managed extension and research plots in Cambodia like rollers, no till planters, sprayers, and a hand tractor and discussed. We decided on which of those machineries will likely be most applicable in the Philippines. We visited several SANREM funded CAPS plots that were started in Battambang. The crops were affected by an unusual drought that hit Cambodia. June biomass was very low relative to what it should be if the expected abundant rain fell. After Batambang we visited research and farmers' managed CAPS plots in Kampong Cham with several 'technically' successful research and farmer managed CAPS shown to us. Some of the farms were in CAPS since 2004 and just by visual observation it was obvious that the crops and the soil were in better condition compared with the crops and soil in the conventionally tilled plots. We were shown several cover crops of different varieties and species. All these prepared the team to decide with consultation from Stéphane the possible CAPS that can be done in the Philippines. The External Evaluation Panel strongly advised not to limit the CAPS in the Philippines to *Arachis pintoi*. These CAPS became the basis of the research and farmer managed CAPS treatments in the Philippines.

In the Philippines, Reyes and Yeboah met at USAID-MISSIONS with Mr. Oliver Agoncillo. We discussed the just concluded SANREM phase III project and then Reyes presented the SANREM-CAPS project in Mindanao. In Claveria, Reyes and Yeboah visited the World Agroforestry Center (WAC) office and met WAC staff. We proceeded to the agroforestry farm of Agustin Mercado. We concluded that the site was a good area to conduct a research managed CAPS study. The next day we presented the SANREM-CAPS project to several farmers. Many of these farmers are eager for CAPS to be applied in their farms. We had a long discussion of possible CAPS treatments with each farmer recommending their suggested cropping systems. Late afternoon we visited five farms who volunteered their farms for CAPS farmer managed research. Farmer suggested cropping systems were recorded and then modified and incorporated in the CAPS treatments in the Philippines.

**Progress in meeting objectives:** Objectives listed above under "Purposes of Trip" were all met as explained in the discussion at the previous section.

**Suggestions and Recommendations (as appropriate):** An excellent synergistic partnership was developed between with researchers in Cambodia and the Philippines. Cambodian researchers provided inputs that became the foundation of CAPS treatments in the Philippines. Furthermore, Philippine team saw the different small machineries used for CAPS. Cambodia benefitted from the gender expertise from the Philippines. This synergistic relationship will be pursued. Also both USAID Missions are very supportive of SANREM work in their countries, especially, USAID-Cambodia. Samram and other USAID Mission staff in Cambodia have significantly contributed in developing SANREM-MISSIONS-Cambodia team partnership.

**List of Contacts Made:**

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
Ronit Kirshner Gerard	Private Enterprise and Development Officer USAID/Cambodia	<a href="mailto:rgerard@usaid.gov">rgerard@usaid.gov</a>
Roy Fen	Democracy and Governance Advisor, USAID/Cambodia	<a href="mailto:rfenn@usaid.gov">rfenn@usaid.gov</a>
Chuong Sophal	Dean, Faculty of Agronomy, Royal University of Cambodia	<a href="mailto:sophal1954@hotmail.com">sophal1954@hotmail.com</a>
Kaing Chanlen	Value Chain Team Leader, Cambodia Agribusiness Development Facility	chanlen@cadf-angkor-info
Curtis Hundley	Chief of Party, DAI MSME Project	<a href="mailto:curtis_hundley@dai.com">curtis_hundley@dai.com</a>
Duong Chansereivisal	Project Advisor, Integrated Women Empowerment Project, Agricultural Development Denmark Asia	<a href="mailto:visal@adda-cambodia.org">visal@adda-cambodia.org</a>
Chan Narith	International Trade and Marketing Manager, Multi Service Printing Supply	<a href="mailto:narith_itm@asia.msps.com">narith_itm@asia.msps.com</a>
Som Lon	Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	
Stéphane Chabierski	Agronomist, PADAC and CIRAD	<a href="mailto:stephane.chabierski@cirad.fr">stephane.chabierski@cirad.fr</a>
Christopher Richard	Happy Dragon Farm	<a href="mailto:chrpnh@hotmail.com">chrpnh@hotmail.com</a>
Phillip Charlesworth	Agriculture Program Manager, IDE	<a href="mailto:pcharlesworth@ide-cambodia.org">pcharlesworth@ide-cambodia.org</a>
Kou Phally	Head of Agriculture Technique, Rubber Smallholders Development Project	<a href="mailto:kouhally@yahoo.com">kouhally@yahoo.com</a>
Mong Reththy	President, Mong Reththy Group Co., LTD	<a href="mailto:mrtgroup@mongreththy.com">mrtgroup@mongreththy.com</a>