



Agricultural  
Development  
Denmark  
Asia

# NEWS & VIEWS

Nr. 33 · April 2017





# ADDA's actual projects

Every year ADDA is seeking funding for new projects from DANIDA, the Danish CISU, EU and other public donors. At the same time, ADDA has intensified efforts to get private donors to support our projects.

In 2016 several new projects were initiated. A CISU financed organic project in Vietnam, as well as CISOM phase II in Cambodia, and furthermore we have initiated two minor projects in Tanzania.

We have terminated four projects: CISOM Phase I, CISUP in Cambodia, NADP in Focus in Tanzania and FIGNAHB in Vietnam.

Here is an overview of the projects actually running and the source of funding funds them. Most projects include 5 – 10% self-financing in their budgets to be covered by ADDA and our partners.

Read more about the projects on [www.adda.dk](http://www.adda.dk)

Project	Project	Country	Budget, DKK/ - financed by
<b>CISOM, phase II:</b> Strengthening of Civil Society in Oddar Meanchay	March 2016 - March 2019	Cambodia	5.000.000 DKK/ CISU
<b>COCIS:</b> Co-operatives and Civil Society Development in Siem Reap	January 2014 - June 2017	Cambodia	4.300.000 DKK/ CISU
<b>Contract Farming:</b> Legal Aid to Contract Farming	January 2015 - Dec. 2017	Vietnam	4.968.000 DKK/ CISU
<b>CEMI:</b> Climate Changes and Ethnic Minorities in Northern Vietnam	July 2014 - June 2017	Vietnam	4.544.852 DKK/ CISU
<b>VN Organic</b> Improving organic farming	April 2016 - March 2019	Vietnam	3.783.200 DKK/ CISU
<b>ADDA –ADP partnership building for future interventions</b>	July 2016 - April 2017	Tanzania	200.000 DKK/ CISU
<b>Sunflower cluster development for organic certification and international export</b>	October 2016 - January 2017	Tanzania	171.702 DKK/ Local Investment Climate (LIC), Tanzania
<b>AMDT – Agricultural Markets Development Trust</b>	April 2017 - December 2020	Tanzania	Processing.

Kilde: Adda

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Editors of News & Views no. 33:  
Tove Bang og Povl Nørgaard

Cover photo: Heng Boty and his family use water from the new well for bathing and for agriculture. Foto: Yun Sinang



News & Views / Agricultural  
Development Denmark Asia

ADDA's adresse:  
ADDA  
Nørrebrogade 52c, 2.tv.  
2200 København N  
Telefon 24 47 13 07  
Mail: [adda@adda.dk](mailto:adda@adda.dk)  
[www.adda.dk](http://www.adda.dk)

Tryk: Kolind Bogtrykkeri I/S



*A day at work in Lai Chau, Vietnam. Photo: Thuang*

# Wealth and the will for development

## LEADER

Af Søren Thorndal Jørgensen,  
Chairman, ADDA

For the first time in 183 years, the state of Denmark has no foreign currency debt abroad. It is a historical moment, people say. Yes – it is important to have a balance in national economy. There is no doubt that enormous wealth has been created in Denmark over time.

We have a large working environment, and coupled with political stability and a favourable climate for agriculture, we have managed to create a small, rich society where there is surplus to worry about all those, who do not feel so good. And care for the poor people all around the world.

Unfortunately, the will to help others has become less in recent years. Cuts on aid to developing countries do not dress a country like Denmark with a solid economy. Because, if we do not help, who else will? I have to conclude that the willingness to provide and create a positive development for others

is obviously not related to one's own situation. Currently, our society is perceived as under pressure, more than it really is. It has resulted in a fear agenda that drives non-rational political decisions based on emotions. It creates a momentum for attitudes such as „We'd rather be extra sure“. This kind of logic has the opposite effect, namely that investment in international development is reduced and thus becomes the „cake“ to be shared, no bigger. This creates frustrations and tensions, and then it is becoming tragicomic, when the same fear agenda becomes the source of the development that the same agenda fears. We must be able to do better!

## ADDA wants sustainable development

ADDA is committed to creating sustainable development for the many organizations and people involved in our cooperation. It does not require a doctorate to realize that our lifestyle in the West cannot be copied to the rest of the world without it being completely wrong. We also need to change our behaviour as soon as otherwise, the Earth runs out of resources.

Is it possible to develop a society, and not at the same time slide the globe thinly in the search for resources? In ADDA we think there is a clear possibility. However, we may need to turn our own growth community into a more restful community. In ADDA we work extensively with projects where farmers learn to make a living for the family and then have a small amount of extras that can be sold. It provides proximity and security without the farmer being forced into massive debt and all the uncertainty it provides. For the little farmer, the same conditions apply as to small Denmark – it is hard to be the small one in a globalized world, but it is even harder if one as small also draws on a huge debt. The base must be in order, and then positive change can be initiated.

The will for development must be reborn. We have the wealth and the necessary knowledge, now everything has to be put into play.

In ADDA we are ready - now more than ever before.





# **New Danish development strategy**

## *- same goal and solid work as at ADDA*

Af Arafa Khatib,  
ADDA's project coordinator in Vietnam  
Photo: ADDA VN

ADDA's work connects the UN's 17 World Objectives, the so-called SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals. These goals are the starting point for the development strategy adopted by the Danish Parliament in January.

The UN's 17 world goals have 169 sub-goals, as well as a number of indicators for the work to create more equality and provide better opportunities for all. ADDA's work has a direct connection to many of the goals. Like the 2015 goals, the new world targets continue to focus on poverty alleviation and the environment, as well as economic and social development. Although ADDA's work is wide-ranging, we keep focus on the association's goals: To work towards promoting self-sufficiency and improving the economic conditions for the

poorest part of rural populations in developing countries.

### **ADDA's and our partners work for World Goal 1**

World Goal No. 1: Abolish poverty. ADDA works directly with poor rural populations, small businesses and subsistence farmers, thereby contributing to eradicating extreme poverty in some of the remote areas of Cambodia, Vietnam and Tanzania. In addition, we work with advocacy, an effort to provide farmers and organizations with tools to advocate for better rights and conditions vis-à-vis their local authorities.

### **World Goal 10 - Less Inequality**

ADDA's targeted efforts for the poorest part of the population in Cambodia, Vietnam and Tanzania contribute to reducing inequalities in society. We train farmers to use better and more sustainable cultivation methods, such as the System Rice Intensi-

fication (SRI), which deals with cultivation methods based on organic rice cultivation systems adapted to climate change. And the results are visible. We see that market yields increase significantly, and it promotes income positively. In our work, we emphasize that teaching methods are participatory, so that everyone can participate on an equal footing regardless of gender and education. This means that even the most vulnerable and untrained farmers can attend and receive education.

### **Focus on World Target 13 in Vietnam - Climate Initiative**

In Vietnam, with the support of Civil Society in Development (CISU), through the project Climate Change and Ethnic Minorities, we have focused on World Objectives 13, - Climate Action. Under this objective, we are working to strengthen the resilience of small-scale farming and to empower them to adapt the agri-environment. For poor



◀ A local trainer in Dien Bien Province has taken the farmers into the rice field to show and explain them how a certain growth stage at the rice plant looks like.

peasants, climate change has direct negative consequences. For example when weather conditions become extreme and lead to prolonged periods of drought or floods. When a harvest fails due to fluctuations in weather conditions, it goes beyond food safety. Some of the crops that the peasants cultivate have only one season, so families are naturally dependent on a good harvest and at the same time very vulnerable if it fails. This vulnerability increases the poorer the family is.

In Vietnam, ethnic minorities in northern Vietnam are among the poorest, and therefore they have been the target group for our projects. Local communities have gained better access to information on local and national climate policies by involving peasant groups in decisions. Information activities have been organized in the form of courses, workshops and seminars to promote understanding of local climate plans and climate policy. Through dialogue meetings, local communities have had the opportunity to get in touch with local authorities. This has been a very important step for farmers

in terms of influencing climate policy at local level.

ADDA continues its solid work with our partners in the developing countries. In this way, we make our contribution to realizing the UN's World Goal. Our overall goal is to combat poverty and inequality in the countries we work in.

► SSRI classroom training.



▲ Group work and close study of the rice plants.

▼ The UN's 17 World Objectives for Sustainable Development were adopted in 2015 and will be valid until 2030





# Wells and rice banks

## improve farmers' living standards in remote provinces



▲ Mr. Heng Boty and his family get water from the ring well to bathing and farming. Photo: Yun Sinang

By Yun Sinang,  
Project Manager in CISOM, ADDA Cambodia

In 2013, ADDA launched a CISOM project in Oddar Meanchey, one of the rural remote provinces in Cambodia and close to the northern border of Thailand. The area was at the time the last homeland for the Khmer Rouge regime, so most areas here are still covered by land mines.

After the Khmer Rouge regime, Oddar Meanchey has had deforestation as a serious problem. It is caused by Development Companies, self-employed agricultural and industrial companies, who have received financial support to decay the forest. This forest was for most farmers their livelihoods, and they were dependent on forest instances of natural products and by-produ-

cts, as well as agriculture. With the support of the military, farmers' lands were surrendered to these development companies – and the peasants lost their land and poverty continued.

The results of the CISOM project (Empowerment of Civil Society in Oddar Meanchey) now show that farmers have had good opportunities to participate in the project's self-help groups and agricultural cooperatives. Through the activities of the project, they learn new agricultural techniques and business development and „advocacy“. Farmers are able to increase their living standards through farming, and they can seek and obtain government support through the organized advocacy service. All in all, the improvements mean that the peasants can cultivate their land plots in a modern and more profitable manner. People have got

back their old land, and they can again use it for agricultural purposes.

### Access to water and safe storage of rice benefits in many ways

A small development project (Community Development Project, CDP), which also belongs to CISOM, focuses on the creation of wells and rice banks. It has greatly contributed to increasing the yield of farmers. Prior to the project, Cambodia's old irrigation system has not been modernized, so there has been no access to clean water in many rural areas. In addition, climate change has deteriorated living conditions in many places on this planet - also in Cambodia. Especially in the long drying season, up to six to seven months (November to May), farmers' conditions are deteriorated. Another reason is that farmers cannot afford to fund the establishment of wells. All in all, the lack



of water causes the population's supply of food to remain uncertain.

Since farmers have been helped to establish wells, renovate water reservoirs and build rice banks, we can now also see that they use the water for their gardens and to raise chickens.

In addition, they can borrow rice from the CDP project, so their food supply is better protected. It is much cheaper to borrow rice from the project than to borrow a loan from a businessman. This means that the project allows farmers to reduce their debt to the private sector. When the rice banks provide loans, they directly support the self-help groups (SHG), as there is a small interest rate on the risk loans that can be used for the administration of SHG.

Government funding for rural development is quite limited, so the CDP project has so far played an important role in supplementing government initiatives.

## Many people achieve a lift in living standard

The concrete result is that 42 CDP projects have been successfully established. It concerns 31 ring wells, renovation of 2 water reservoirs and 9 rice banks. It benefits a total of 3,902 peasants / 914 families.

The water supply from the 31 wells and the 2 water reservoirs not only reaches the members of SHG, but is also used in the nearby community as a whole. It is estimated that the establishment of 31 wells and 2 water reservoirs benefits up to 2,242 recipients spread over 536 families.

In addition, the 9 rice banks benefit 1,660 recipients of 378 families.

The affected farmers always express their satisfaction with the rice and water projects. The initiatives mean that there is a bridge over the drying time's food and water shortages.

tage between the harvest season and the planting season.

CISOM project employees experience great satisfaction among the farmers with the CDP project's smaller development projects in the form of wells and rice banks.

For example, Mr. Heng Boty from Phaaung Village says that „The water supply from the ring well makes it possible for me and my neighbours to grow crops all year for our own consumption and for sale. I am very pleased with the project. I will have enough food for the whole year after I have participated in the project“.

And Mrs. Kong Rin from Osralao Village expresses sincere thanks to the project: „I am very pleased with rice banks, as I can get enough rice for our own consumption. In addition, the rice can prevent food shortages if my farm is hit by negative effects from climate change“.

▼ The farmers in Osralao village weigh rice in front of their rice bank. Photo: Yun Sinang







## Wells relieve women's workloads

By Yun Sinang,  
Project Manager in ADDA Cambodia

In the Svay Pok village - one of the 9 villages (16 self-help groups) in the COSIS project in Kouk Thlok Leu municipality, Chikreng District, Siem Reap, ADDA has helped residents to establish wells.

Previously, the inhabitants of this village, like in so many other villages, did not have access to clean water during the drying season. They had to spend a lot of time getting water from far away. The groundwater mirror is very deep in this area, so special wells

have to be built and special water pipes are used. The cost could not be afforded villagers alone, so the help from the ADDA was welcome.

The initiative started with discussions in the SHG committee and with the members of the groups to find solutions to the water shortage. They wrote an application to NGOs working in their area, including ADDA / READA, to support them with materials for establishing wells. ADDA answered the request positively and 3 wells were built for 3 poor households / SHG members in this village. In addition, the wells are also used by villagers from 4 other villages (3

▲ *Mrs. Oun Ya, 35 years old, and from a family of four, including two women, said: „I used to pick up water every day 5 km from our house. It was hard for me because I have small children. I could only get tap water – nothing for the animals. Now there is water for my 5 pigs, chickens and some vegetables and 12 families are happy to use the well., Photo: Yun Sinang*

in the municipality, one from outside). The money is derived from ADDA's collections in Denmark.

ADDA / READA have since supported the building of 43 ring wells including 24 ring wells in the Chikreng district.

▼ *Ms. Rin Ky, 32 years old and member of a family of 6 including two women, say: „I am very pleased to have got this well. Now I want to plant curly water convolvulus and eggplant, and I can raise chickens, pigs and cattle. In the past, I had to walk 2 kilometres from my home to get water, and we could only bring water to the household. In the dry season, I could do anything to support my family. About 65 families from the village and from 2 surrounding villages will benefit greatly from this well., Photo: Yun Sinang*



▲ *Ms. Phouk Vonn, 43 years old from a 7-member family, including 2 women, says: „The new well has changed both my life and my family's lives and the lives of my 10 neighbouring families. We can use water for households, for raising animals and for vegetable cultivation. In the past we could not have these activities.,. Photo: Yun Sinang*





# Great year for Siem Reap

By Pich Sophin,  
Project Manager, ADDA Cambodia

ADDA-READA's support for 10 cooperatives (Agricultural Cooperatives, AC) in Siem Reap produces good results. The 10 unions organized their annual general meeting at the beginning of 2017, and their 2016 results were presented in front of their members, their business plan for 2017 was developed and internal structure and rules were reviewed.

The 10 ACs, Kantraing Balang Raksmeay Satrey Samaki, Kantraing Municipality, Prasat Bakong District can report a unique increase in the number of shares, capital and members. The company was established in 2014 with 56 members, 101 shares and a capital of USD 1,332.

At the beginning of 2016, the number of members increased to 83 (67 women), with

238 shares and the total capital was \$ 9,048 - including a loan from ADDA - READA. (Total equity is USD 3,865).

At the beginning of 2017 there are 232 members (198 women), 1,028 shares and total capital including loans from other financial sources amounts to USD 35,764 (total equity is USD 20,376). (1 share = 12.5 USD). Cooperatives attract more and more villagers' attention and membership, and the trends looks promising.

## A specially selected cooperative association participates in a nationwide competition

Especially one AC is doing well: Roluos Meanchey Raksmeay Satrey Angkor Agricultural Cooperative, in Prasat Bakong District. This AC has been selected by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of 46 ACs in Siem Reap to participate in the national competition for AC management. 25 cooperatives, each repre-

sending a province, participate in this competition.

The competition consists of three stages, as seen below:

**Trin 1:** Oral questions, juries ask questions related to the Cambodian law on ACs, structure, share dividend, financial management, asset management, number of shares and members. 10 ACs out of 25 will be selected for the next step.

**Trin 2:** Land visit to the ACs. Only 5 ACs will be selected for the final evaluation of the 10 ACs that have been visited.

**Trin 3:** The competition ends at the ministry, where the final scoring on AC management (from 1 to 5) will be announced.

ADDA and READA are very proud of this AC committee, which consists of only women! They compete against the „big fish“, it will not be easy, but they will learn a lot during the process.

▼ General Assembly 2016 in Rolous Meanchey Raksmeay Satrey Angkor. On the picture, the author of the article, Pich Sophin, is in conversation with ADDA's Project Coordinator in Cambodia, Kjeld Vodder Nielsen. Photo: Pich Sophin



▼ The proud women in AC Rolous Meanchey Raksmeay at the national MAFF competition for cooperative associations. Photo: Pich Sophin





# ADDA in Myanmar?



By Helge Brunse  
Senior Adviser in ADDA

Myanmar is a country in transition - with many opportunities and high economic growth of over 8 % in 2016, but it also faces many challenges. It is one of the poorest and least developed countries in Asia.

Denmark has during many years supported the democratic forces in Myanmar and provided humanitarian assistance to the many refugees and internally displaced persons in the country's border areas. By making the country a priority country, Denmark has confirmed its support for the ongoing ambitious and long-term transition process. ADDA's consultants have had several exciting consultancy duties in Myanmar in re-

cent years, and there are more to come, because there is full pressure on assistance to the country. Our first mission was in 2013, together with a team of international experts, to help shape a 5-year development plan for an area around the Inley Lake in Shan state in the central part of the country. The lake is characterized by the cultivation of large amounts of tomatoes on floating beds in the lake, but unfortunately there is no control of the consumption of hazardous pesticides. Both DDT (75%) and Parathion are used in large amounts, which has caused visible contamination problems.

## About the NOAC project

Actually negotiations are under way to hire one of ADDA's consultants to join a team that will improve the growing con-

ditions for farmers and the environment around the lake.

We are contributing to an ongoing project (2016-2019) in the Chin region of the western part of the country. It aims to improve nutritional conditions, especially for children. ADDA's partner MIID stands for the NOAC project, which will improve the region's agricultural consultancy service. The Chin region is one of the least developed in the country. The area is mountainous and there is very poor infrastructure. A large part of the economy comes from migrants, who send money back home to the families from their workplaces in other countries. To improve the situation and the agricultural growing conditions for farmers in 24 villages in the Chin region, we introduce ADDA's well-known concept with field schools

*The fishermen at Inley Lake use the leg to manage the rowing while standing. Photo: Helge Brunse*



▲ Special highland varieties of rice grow well on the terraces during the rainy season. Rice is an important crop, and the people consume rice three times a day. Photo: Helge Brunse



# Market access and organic farming in Tanzania



▲ Floating tomato crops on the Inley Lake in Myanmar. The pillars keep the beds up, so they do not sink to the bottom. Tomatoes from here are transported on trucks to the capital of Yangon. Photo: Helge Brunse

(Farmer Field Schools). In short, groups of farmers meet once a week on demonstration fields or at a model hens houses for improved egg production. Then the farmers perform the improved production methods at home on their own small plot of land.

The villages involved are located over 2000 m above sea level, so there is a cool climate, and it allows for cultivation of types of vegetables that only grow in more temperate zones. Carrots grow well here, as well as strawberries, but farmers do not know how to grow strawberries, as seen from the picture below.



▲ Cabbage grows well at this height, but the strawberries are too small. So we try to find some better varieties - and then more water is required. Photo: Helge Brunse



▲ Nishant from VOF, Erik from ADDA, and Mr. Goodluck from NIRAS inspect a sunflower crop. Photo: Erik Schiøtz

By Erik Schiøtz,  
ADDA Project Coordinator in Tanzania

Since 2009, ADDA Tanzania has been involved in training around 9000 farmers in production-promoting and sustainable production methods in Tanzania. A couple of years ago, an option came for a large number of farmers gaining access to a stable market. The option came in the form of a request from the Indian company Vantage Organic Foods Ltd (VOF), which needs help identifying and involving 20,000 small farmers in a certification process for organic production. The aim of VOF is to purchase sunflower and other oilseed seedlings for processing and export to the international animal feed market in Europe, the United States, Canada and Japan. In the growing season 2015 - 2016, ADDA and VOF managed to register and certify 4,348 farmers. In December 2016, as well as January 2017,

we organized the first training of the registered farmers in the main ecological principles as well as compost production and production of organic plant protection products. In addition, until April 1, we have registered another 5,500 farmers.

The first training was carried out with funding through a small grant from a local DANIDA fund project implemented by the consultancy firm NIRAS in the Dodoma region and a small CISU / DANIDA grant in the Mbeya region. In parallel, ADDA Tanzania has been working to obtain a larger grant of approx. 15 million DKK over 3 years from a local fund in Tanzania for training of the expected 20,000 small farmers. Our application has been approved and we expect the final contract very soon. The goal of the project is to train 20,000 small farmers in improved organic farming with sales to the international market via VOF.

## New from the secretariat

This spring number of News & Views is published with some refreshing changes in the layout. We hope the renewal will fall into your taste. It has been set by Povl Nørgaard from the ADDA Board, which has been included in the editorial board. Welcome to him!



# Invitation to General Assembly 2017

**ADDA's AGM will be held on  
Monday May 19th. 2017 at 19:30**

**at Kalø Organic Agricultural School, Skovridervej 1, 8410 Rønne, Denmark**

## **Agenda according to the statutes:**

1. Election of meeting leader and note taker
2. The Board's annual review
3. Presentation of annual accounts for approval
4. Presentation of the current year's budgets
5. Proposals received from the Board and members
6. Determination of subscriptions for the following calendar year
7. Elections to the Board:
  - Candidates: Ove G. Christensen and Torben Huus Bruun and suppliants
8. Approval of state authorized accountants proposed by the Board
9. Any other business

Subjects and proposals to be discussed at the AGM must be sent to the Board by mail to [adda@adda.dk](mailto:adda@adda.dk) by the latest on 15 May 2017

Motivated proposals can be read on ADDA's home page at the latest 5 days before the AGM

Notes made during the AGM will be published as minutes of the meeting on ADDA's home page [www.adda.dk](http://www.adda.dk)

Best Regards  
ADDA Board

## **Join ADDA now!**

As a member of ADDA you contribute to the poor farmers in Asia and Africa improve living conditions through ADDA's projects under ADDA's motto: Help to Self-Help. You get two editions of the ADDA members' magazine, like the one you are reading right now.

Furthermore, you can follow our several projects by signing on for our e-mail newsletter follow ADDA on our homepage and on Facebook. Sign on via [www.adda.dk](http://www.adda.dk) or call +45 2447 1307.

### **Yearly member subscription:**

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## **Forgotten to pay?**

Have you remembered to pay subscriptions for 2017? If you have forgotten to do this, or if you are in doubt, then please contact the secretariat on [adda@adda.dk](mailto:adda@adda.dk) or telephone +45 2447 1307. Find ADDA's account info on [www.adda.dk](http://www.adda.dk)