



Agricultural
Development
Denmark
Asia

NEWS & VIEWS

No. 38 · November 2019



Ongoing ADDA projects

Each year, ADDA seeks funding for new projects - especially at DANIDA, Danish CISU, the EU and other public donors. Furthermore, we have increased our efforts to get private foundations as donors to support ADDA's projects.

The list below is ongoing projects, as well as funding sources. In most projects, the budget includes approx. 5-10% self-financing covered by ADDA itself and the partners in the SOUTH.

In 2019, we completed CISOM II project per March 1, 2019 after a three years of project period. And we completed VN-Organic in Vietnam to promote organic farming in July 2019, also after a three-year project period.

We have been awarded money by CISU for two new projects to start in 2019. VOF - an eco-project in Vietnam and a new project called ACSO in Cambodia, which continues our work in Oddar Meanshey Province, with capacity building of cooperatives including formation of association for cooperatives - in fact a CISOM III project.

Project titles	Project periode	Country	Budget in DKK, and source of finance
EASY Empowering Agricultural Cooperatives and Civil Society Development in Siem Riep	06. 2017- 05. 2020	Cambodia	3.500.000 kr. CISU
AMDT. Linking small-scale farmers to the international market for organic Sunflower	01.2018-12.2020	Tanzania	11.375.000 kr. AMDT
VOF Strengthening the Voice and Capacity of Vulnerable Ethnic Minority Farmers in Climate Resilience in Northwest Vietnam	01.2019 – 12.2021	Vietnam	4.000.000 kr. CISU
ACSO: Empowering Agricultural Cooperatives and Civil Society in Oddar Meanshey	03.2019 – 07.2020	Cambodia	2.000.000 kr. CISU

Kilde: Adda

News & Views is sent to ADDA's members twice yearly. Previous editions can be found at ADDA homepage.

Editor of News & Views no. 38:
Povl Nørgaardl



ADDAs adresse:
ADDA
Carit Etlars Vej 6
1814 Frederiksberg
Mail: adda@adda.dk
www.adda.dk

Cover photo: Genesis trains upcoming village guides in Matongoro Village, Tanzania.
Photo: Charlotte Denham

Tryk: Kolind Bogtrykkeri I/S



▲ The delegation from Cambodia and Vietnam at the jubilee event in June

A great anniversary year for ADDA

CHAIRMAN'S WORD

Af Søren Thorndal Jørgensen,
Chairman ADDA

ADDA has had a beautiful and fantastic 25th anniversary in 2019. The highlight was the celebration of ADDA at the Jubilee event on 1st of June at Kalø Organic Agricultural College. That event gave us a good opportunity to stop up and look backwards at the impacts achieved. For such a reflection strengthens the ability to look ahead towards new goals. A bit like the Roman god Janus, who could both look backwards and forward simultaneously.

We have achieved an incredible amount in ADDA over the last 25 years, and we even have had the courage to do more. In the future, we would like to work even more to include the UN Sustainability Agenda as the overarching benchmarks. And that is why we have made the UN 17 World Goal a unifying theme in our new strategy. I'm really proud of that connection, because having that in mind, we can try to make our efforts

even better. We can't achieve all our desired results at once or faster, but we can try to do it. And we intend to keep that ambition.

An important element of development work is to make sure in every effort, that partners understand each other's goals and background, so that the parties can better reconcile their different interests. I am therefore particularly pleased that a major delegation from Vietnam and Cambodia participated in the celebration of our anniversary in June. And that they also joined a very well-organized week of study in Denmark prior to the anniversary event. That study trip has provided more inspiration to all parties than we had ever imagined. And the togetherness during such a trip also ties our stories together - a result I am extra proud of. Fx. the delegations meeting with the former ADDA chairman, Niels Dumas Johansen in Auning, was a highlight of the exception-

al for many of the participating Vietnamese persons.

Looking ahead in the actual moment, it is a little too exciting how we can handle funding for ADDA's activities in the coming years. It has become very difficult to be a smaller Danish NGO among many others, although I believe that it is important to have a diversity of organizations, among other things, to test and design the tools needed to create sustainable development in the countries of the South. After all, their sustainability goal are not just a matter of whether the car is electric or not. The equation of work includes many other things and more human aspects.

At ADDA we have several offers for good solutions including the right employees, so we are looking into a green future.

Climate adaptation in focus on new project

By: Arafa Khatib,
Project Coordinator at ADDA

The poor part of Vietnam's rural population - the ethnic minorities in particular feel the consequences of climate change, where extreme weather destroys their agricultural production. ADDA's new project in Son La and Lai Chau provinces helps the small farmers in the areas to adapt their cultivation methods

ADDA and partners have for a long period focused on training and information of poor rural communities in methods how to improve crop yields and earnings by using better farming practices. Our new project: Strengthening the Voice and Capacity of Vulnerable Ethnic Minority Farmers in Climate Resilience in Northwest Vietnam (abbreviated VOF), together with PanNature - our Vietnamese partner organization, will continue and consolidate the many good results of the previous climate project: Climate Change and Ethnic Minorities. In that project we focused on strengthening agricultural resilience (resilience) to changing

climate and weather conditions, as well as improving farmers' skills in advocacy towards local authorities. We continue with these themes in the new VOF project.

A project of this type has many partners in order to lift the complex tasks. And we really benefit of ADDA's many years of experience in corporation with partners. A project of this type begins with a thorough involvement of all the actors in the project and especially the local authorities in the selected provinces, as well as in the individual districts and municipalities. We have initial workshops and meetings with authorities in the two provinces of Son La and Lai Chau. And at village level with the Commune People's Committee (CPC), which is the local administrative unit.

Happy reunion with local facilitators

Right now, the project is in the process of providing training for the local facilitators, who are taught in agroecology, as well as in participant-oriented training methods. The local facilitators play a key role in conducting training sessions and meetings with the Climate Committees in the individual villages.

On my recent visit to Son La Province, I attended a training session for the local facilitators and here I met Huong and Tran, both local facilitators. The two were also part of the CEMI Climate Project and have previously participated in other ADDA activities. Huong hopes that the farmers in the villages will take good care of the climate adaptation models and be interested in using them in practice. Tran hopes that in the project they will gain a good dissemination of knowledge about the farmers' opportunities to climate adapt their cultivation methods. Both are happy to be part of the local development activity again in Lai Chau province and to help influence and assist the farmers in the villages with their climate change initiatives.

Partners in the provinces of Son La and Lai Chau

Local branches of the Vietnam Farmers Union (VNFU) in districts, municipalities and villages will be responsible for the many different activities together with ADDA's main partner - PanNature. In this project, local farmers from the organization VNFU in Son La and Lai Chau Farmer Union will manage an implementation task, but they will also part of the target group. Their responsibilities are to plan and organize the many activities and make reporting. And in order to be able to solve these tasks, their competences in administrative work, member involvement, as well as agricultural knowledge about the climate's effect on cultivation methods are strengthened. With support from ADDA and PanNature, the various local departments will conduct advocacy activities towards provincial and national authorities. Training activities



◀ The writer visits a mini-nursery school, which is part of a PanNature project for the Womens Union in Son La



◀ *ADDA and PanNature employees at their office in van Ho. From left: Mr. Luu PanNature, Project Coordinator; Mrs. Le - ADDA project employee and administration, Mrs. Huong - local facilitator Lai Chau, Arafat Khatib, ADDA, general project manager; Mr. Thang - PanNature Project Coordinator; Mr. Liem - PanNature project employee, Mr. Thuong - ADDA employee for 20 years, photographer; driver; project employee etc.*

must, among other things, strengthen the participation of villagers in the planning of climate-friendly production plans and making value chain analyzes of relevant agricultural products. Measures that can promote the local communities' overall earnings. Finally, Tay Bac University (TBU) in Son La Province will be involved in the project. The TBU will be involved in the professional agricultural training and they will use the project in their research on climate change and their importance for agricultural production, the environment and the market conditions. We have previously conducted a project in cooperation with TBU, which has contributed with training courses for the local facilitators, as well as designing the professional content in farmer field school courses.

ernance and transparency in the natural resources sector. And they actively participate in political discussions and provide analyzes and environmental assessments in relation to protected area management, biodiversity, forest management, mining, hydropower development and environmental taxation, etc. PanNature emphasizes being able to provide evidence-based research and analysis. ADDA's collaboration with PanNature started after a meeting in the Climate Change Group network in 2013. We quickly discovered the many common options for collaboration and in the fall of 2014, with the support of CISU's Climate and Environment Fund, we started the project: "Climate Change and Ethnic Minorities in North-

ern Vietnam". Over the years, we have developed good cooperation and together increased our knowledge and experience in working with climate adaptation in agriculture for ethnic minorities at local level in North Vietnam.

Having practical experience from the above project and a number of other projects with national and international partners, PanNature has gained extensive experience in capacity building and advocacy for ethnic minorities and other marginalized groups. PanNature has a contact with many state- and international agencies, as well as donors, and has through these contacts gained access to major political events and policy makers at national level. Through their own news service, www.Thiennhien.net, PanNature reaches a wide audience and has become well-known among environmental organizations, government agencies, and the media.

About PanNature

PanNature is together with ADDA the main partners in the project. PanNature is responsible for the implementation of the project and for achieving the desired goals. Founded in 2004, the PanNature organization has since grown to become an innovative and change-oriented civil society organization, working broadly thematically and geographically in Vietnam. PanNature launches initiatives that promote good gov-

► *Mrs. Huong and Mr. Tran practices in practice with a group of women in using the dissemination methods in praxis they were taught at ToT the day before*



Development in the cooperative sector in Cambodia

By Helge Brunse, ADDA Board, Agronomist,
Country Coordinator Cambodia 2004-2010

With its activities, a new project will add another layer on top of the many results created by ADDA through 25 years of development activities in the Provinces of Siem Reap and Oddar Meanchay. Activities that has provided better economy and welfare for many thousands of small farmers in the two provinces. The article explains what the new goals are based on

This means that today - 15 years after the start - there are approximately five thousand members of cooperative cooperatives (ACs) in the two provinces. And the membership is increasing, because new registrations are coming every day. The number of SHGs has increased to around 250 and 21 ACs have now been created. An AC is an association of self-help groups. Members' income and prosperity also increased by something similar to an impressive level of 17-18% per annum.



▲ A 20-member self-help group holds regular meeting (2012)

ADDA's new application to CISU in Denmark describes a project where a well-functioning joint association / development unit will be established to provide services for all the cooperatives in the two provinces of Siem Reap and Oddar Meanchay. This new organization, together with partners, boards and NGOs, will streamline the operation of the cooperative movement in the two ADDA provinces.

The implementation of such a project only makes sense when it can be built on exciting solid results.

Success requires good basic operation

One of the photos in the article shows a weekly meeting of a women's self-help group, where today's text written on the banners is reviewed by the project-advisors. Also note the cash box photo! In ADDA, we pay homage to the principle of 'self-help' and although the women in the groups are among the poorest in the village, they have been able to save up a little each week. Over the years, this savings has led to a successful micro-credit program. Here,



▲ CACU accounting people count the money to see if the box is correct. On the floor there are approx. 15 million Riel (\$ 3700)

the women / families can borrow from the group's savings at a reasonable interest rate. And since all members know each other, there is a positive group pressure, which means that there is hardly any problem with repayment of the loans.

The financial situation of the cooperatives has steadily evolved and their total capital is now at approximately \$ 600,000, of which about 80% is used as a revolving and risk-taking micro-credit fund. Here, members can borrow an amount to finance investments, e.g. the purchase of seeds for a rice or vegetable crop or the purchase of piglets for fattening. There are no collateral requirements, but loan losses are still very small.

Association of the small groups / associations to become large cooperatives

Over the past few years, 12 AC associations in the Siem Reap province have established a well-functioning joint association, the CACU (Cambodia Agricultural Cooperative Union), which is approved and registered by the Cambodian state. The Board



▲ *Meeting of the CACU Board, facing an optimistic future of the association*

has good reasons to be satisfied, because the finances of the association are good and the members' general earnings increase yearly by 17-18%.

In addition, the establishment of this organization also falls in line with Government policy. The country's Ministry of Agriculture as well as other ministries in Cambodia are calling for and supporting the establishment of agricultural cooperatives. In fact, this has meant that the CACU is up to 15 member associations, the four of which are AC's not formed by ADDA.

ADDA has had the fortune that the granting Danish organizations (DANIDA / CISU) have come to understand our long-term plans for the development of the cooperative sector in especially the northern part of Cambodia. Now we see in praxis the solid result of such a long-term plan.

The tasks of the new organization

The mission of the CACU is to support and increase the capacity of member associations by entering into financial transactions to improve the finances of the member organizations. It could, for example be about entering into agreements with banks on favorable interest rate agreements for lending money to members or agreements with suppliers of raw materials (seed and plant protection products).

In CACU's case, for example, agreements have been made with a local company (AMRU Rice) for the supply of organic rice seed meant for sale in Europe. And an agreement has been made with a Japanese bank (or micro-financial institution) on the

transfer of capital to favorable interest rates. CACU has also entered into agreements with companies and wholesalers regarding cropping / breeding contracts for members having vegetable- and chicken production. Two ACs in the Siem Reap area have also signed contracts with an international NGO Habitat for the construction of two bottled drinking water production facilities. There is a really good market for bottled water and for the two companies it is a good business to sell drinking water. The local Ministry of Agriculture are the controlling unit of the water quality, which has been a good selling point, as the two water factories achieve an overpricing of their water compared to other brands.

The results show that the CACU joint association in many ways contributes to supporting business development and thus the economic development of the province. In the Oddar Meanchay province in the north of the country, ADDA's support for the creation of AC's started somewhat later than in Siem Reap. Actually, a joint association of 9 AC's has been formed, which has been supported by ADDA. The joint association will be called the Provincial Agricultural Cooperative Union (PACU). The AC's in this province are at the moment not as well established as those in Siem Reap. The lower development rate is based on the fact, that the level of education is lower and the infrastructure is worse.



▲ *ADDA's local specialist Leng Soklay instructs the chairman of the PACU on how the Excel accounting sheet is transferred to the 'Quickbook' accounting system*

Drought is challenging the progress of the Tanzania project

Author: Ove Gejl Christensen, Country Manager for Tanzania

Two years of drought in the Dodoma region - the main area of the ADDA project in Tanzania - are pushing the momentum of the project, which aim is to promote small farmers' access to the lucrative market for organic sunflower seeds. The article highlights the project management dilemmas

An extensive drought, such as the one that has hit the Dodoma region over two years, poses major challenges for ADDA's project management. The dilemmas are how to improve small farmers' market access when there are no sunflower crops to sell. And how do you under these conditions still create momentum in the project and keep fo-

cus on what is possible - namely the capacity building of the small farmers. Having the pressure from a fixed-term funding of three years, you must as project manager focus on the art of choosing the possible options.

The biggest challenge

The drought in the Dodoma region has caused heavy losses to farmers. Most of the small farmers linked to the project have had no yields in their sunflower fields. Few have had very little yield, which they then hold back from the market, anticipating higher prices for the sunflower seeds later in the year.

Without crops for sale - buyers stay away. So that situation has led to the absence of Vantage Organic Food (VOF) from India - ADDA's partner, who was to buy sunflower seeds from the small farmers. Forced by the

circumstances, ADDA has partnered with two other purchasers, Jackma Enterprises, Sunshine Industries and is currently making negotiations with PYXUS Agriculture Tanzania, a major oil producer.

ADDA has taken this extraordinary initiative, in order to show the small farmers, that there are interested buyers of their sunflower seeds whenever they will get something for sale. And it is our fortunate that the three mentioned purchasers have even entered into co-operation with VOF as they have been able to combine their different areas of interests. The new buyers are interested in the sunflower oil and VOF in the sunflower cakes. The establishing of this collaboration has

been a very important step for the ADDA project, facing that the ideal plan could not succeed – by the fact that there was a crop to sell.

The organic certification is successful

Control Union, a Dutch company, has in 2019 certified and registered 19,277 small farmers as organic producers, confirming that their production meets the requirements for organic production for the EU and the US-Canada. In 2019, the small farmers have an estimated sun seed production of 50,000 kg of a total of 45 ha. The number of small farmers is close to the project's goal of reaching 20,000 - 25,000 and hopefully this target will be reached by the end of the project in 2020.

Use of better seed

The use of quality seed in sunflower cropping is a central part of the project targets. The traditional varieties used today are not good enough at all. The photo of the demonstration field shows the potential crop of sunflowers that can be obtained using the best seed varieties. But since the cropping of quality seed is affected by drought, only 7 out of the selected 10 farmers managed to sow the fields. And out of the 7, only 3 had crops to harvest and thus create seed for the coming growing season

On behalf of the lesson learned, it is decided for the coming season, that it is not enough just to believe in sufficient natural rainfall. Irrigation must be possible on the areas for seed production.

The selected farmers for the cultivation of seed will receive special training. TOSCI checks that the seed can be approved, which TOSCI also did for the 3 growers from last season. All three farmers had their crop accepted. Unfortunately, due to weather conditions, a very low yield of only 41 kg on 2.2 ha were reached.



▲ Demoplot Mantogoro Village. Good quality seed is used for this demonstration field of sunflower



◀ *An upcoming village trainer is being trained in the village of Matongoro*

22 demonstration and training parcels at selected farmers, where irrigation can be made from lakes and ponds. Farmers get seed from ASA. ADDA has hired an employee to concentrate its work in this area.

Training of small farmers for organic farming

The project has trained 186 farmers to guide ordinary small farmers in harvesting techniques, seed selection, drying and proper storage of

proper use of organic pesticides and proper production and use of organic fertilizers.

ADDA has two subcontractors for the training. Genesis, a private company, has trained 14,845 farmers and TOAM - Tanzania Ecological Association has trained 4971 farmers.

Side activities in the project

ADDA has established contact with various companies that will offer services and products to small farmers. This include both organic fertilizers from e.g. chicken production and equipment for use in the field.

In addition to sunflower, the development of a honey production has also started. 40 beehives produced by a local carpenter will be distributed to 8 groups each group having 5 hives. SESS Tanzania (Serve Environment and Social Support in Tanzania) will be training women and young people in honey production.

At the moment we are waiting for the local village association to find selected participants from the villages. Once this is in place, training of the 8 groups can begin. We just hope that 2020 will be a really good year for farmers. For they need to have the Weather Gods to be far more kindly than in 2018 and 2019.

An agreement has been made with the ASA (Agricultural Seed Agency) for the supply of hybrid seeds to 22 farmers. They will get a seed variety yielding up to 2,000 kg / ha, under the right weather conditions! There will be an option for other farmers in the project to obtain seed from ASA, as a contract has been signed for the delivery of 7,000 kg of seed for seed growing.

The marketing of the new varieties will take place at meetings with farmers in the villages, where representatives from ASA will be present and guide the farmers together with the project trainers - trained by ADDA's partners.

Demonstration fields with quality seed

The fields for multiplying quality seed are also used as demonstration fields. Here the farmers can see with their own eyes the potential for cropping when they use quality seed and the best cultivation techniques. The drought has therefore also challenged the needs for having good fields to use in the training of the trainers, who are going afterwards to train the local small farmers. It has therefore been decided to establish

seeds, as well as regulation and control of fungi and pests.

A great effort has been made in training these farmers in organic farming practices. In the training, special attention is paid to issues such as irrigation and dewatering, protection of crops, soil erosion and establishment of buffer zones to prevent pollution. Farmers have also been trained in



▲ *Two years of drought makes sunflower cultivation impossible*

A well-attended conference marked the 25th anniversary

The 60 attendees to ADDA's Jubilee Conference on 1st of June at Kalø Organic Agricultural College got a good insight into the many good results created by the development funds, that ADDA has provided to poor farmers in rural areas in Vietnam, Cambodia and Tanzania over the past 25 years. And the contributions during the day showed, that ADDA, with its development efforts, pursues many of the UN 17 World Goals

A 25 years of anniversary is a big event for a small NGO like ADDA. Back in 2004, no one could predict that an initiative made by a small group of enthusiastic people from Djursland – a region of Jylland could reach that far. Namely, here in 2019, 25 years after its inception, one could look back on a

string of solid impacts, created with good help from the relatively few funds, that ADDA has conveyed to Cambodia and Vietnam over the years and since 2008 also to Tanzania.

It became a day that highlighted the many positive effects of the contributions that Danish citizens make each year through their tax to finance development work for the poor people in the SOUTH. Among the participants in the anniversary event were Niels and Emely Dumas-Johansen, as well as Bodil E. Pallesen, who were among the key members of the ADDA promoter circle back in 2004.

In News and Views no. 37, articles describe some of ADDA's important impacts through 25 years of projects in Cambodia and Vietnam.

About the speakers at the conference

The contributions to the Jubilee Conference were provided by ADDA's local partners, researchers as well as ADDA's own country leaders. Representatives of partners in Vietnam and Cambodia talked about the most important project impacts - about the many thousands of farmers who, on average, earned 40% higher income after gaining more knowledge through training from a project. It was about the farmers who live in remote areas with limited development opportunities. And they talked about the importance of getting the farmers organized in cooperatives and other networks and how these joining activities among other things have increased their self-esteem. This is evidenced by the fact that women have gained a more visible 'voice' in local communities. Erik Vithner, CISU talked about how the organization with its financial resources con-

-
1. Board member, accountancy manager, and country manager in Cambodia
 2. CISU, Civil Society in Development, www.cisu.dk
 3. DIIS - Danish Institute for International Studies
-



▲ Lok Sokthea, Director of READA, Cambodia - a very important partner during many years for ADDA in Cambodia - speaks to the Jubilee event

tributes to financing activities that provide a popular commitment and participation in sustainable development for the countries in the SOUTH.

CISU is an association of Danish organizations all involved in development work. CISU is a democratic association with the member organizations as the focal point. CISU has around 270 member organizations, representing a wide range of areas of interest, organizational forms and places of belonging.

Esbern Friis-Hansen, DIIS presented results from studies of Farmer Field School's activities in Africa. This method has been widely used in many development projects - including ADDA's projects. Therefore, it has been natural for DIIS to gather experience with the application of the concept and to make recommendations for its usefulness in various contexts.

The anniversary also included representatives from the Vietnamese Embassy, who have been following ADDA's projects in Vietnam over the years.

ADDA delegation meets Danish agriculture

Prior to the conference, ADDA had invited the delegation from Vietnam and Cam-



▲ Søren T Jørgensen, Chairman ADDA and Mr. Thao Zuan Sung, President of VNFU - a very important partnership for ADDA's work in Vietnam

bodia to a well-organized study tour around in Denmark. The first stop was at Agriculture & Food in Copenhagen, where the delegation met experts in organic farming and in African swine fever and they gained useful knowledge to bring back home. It also turned into a meeting with L&F chairman Martin Merrild. Then they went to the island Fanø, as well as visiting an organic dairy farmer. At SEGES in Aarhus, they

gained insight into the work of the agricultural advisory organization, as well as a subsequent farm visit. A visit to Axel Månsson's outdoor vegetable farm gave the participants inspiring insight into Danish production conditions, including the organic ones. It also turned into a memorable meeting with Niels and Emely Dumas-Johansen in their home.



▲ Erik Vithner, CISU told about the importance of popular commitment to sustainable development



▲ Esbern Friis-Hansen, DIIS presented research on the Farmer Fields School concept

FOLLOW ADDA'S CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN 2019

Dear members! - Give a gift and support the rural population in Cambodia and Vietnam



*The families and the self-help groups have great need of smaller development projects such as wells, rice banks, bridges, water channels and roads. **See www.adda.dk***

Join ADDA now!

As a member of ADDA you contribute to the poor farmers in Asia and Africa to improve living conditions through ADDA's projects under ADDA's motto: Help to Self-Help. You get two editions of the ADDA members' magazine yearly. Furthermore, you can follow our

projects by subscribing for our e-mail newsletter, and follow ADDA on our homepage and on Facebook. Sign on via www.adda.dk.

Yearly member subscription:

Ordinary	100 DKK
Family	150 DKK
Company	500 DKK
Students and pensioners.....	50 DKK

Have you moved?

When you move, get a new email address or telephone number, please let us know - send an e-mail to adda@adda.dk

Forgotten to pay!

Have you remembered to pay your membership fee for 2019? If you have forgotten, or you are in doubt, please contact the secretariat at adda@adda.dk. Reg. No. 9324, Account No. 3245623703.