



APN

Impacts of disasters on agricultural sector: A case of Kampong Speu Province

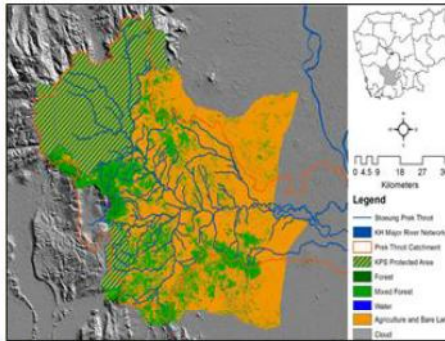
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Background of Kampong Speu

- Area: 653,396 ha, 167,771 ha is for cultivation area
- Population: 812,290 people (51% female); 67.61% are farmers.
- Prek Thnot catchment influences all hydrological conditions.
- Lower part covered by rice fields with less forest and low elevation.



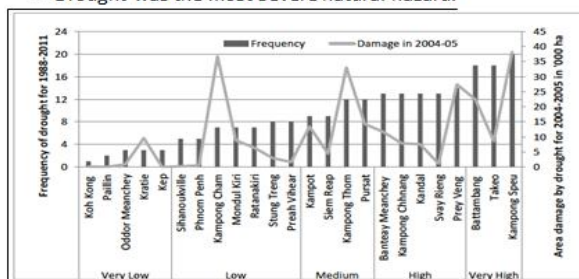
Land Use and Hydrology of Kampong Speu province

Rationale of the study

- Why Kampong Speu?
 - Third vulnerable province to Climate Change
 - Farmers in the KPS province will face more productivities losses in the future due to Drought
 - KPS has very a high incidence of poverty compared to other provinces.

Emerging issues and challenges

- **Disasters and vulnerability assessment**
 - 3rd Vulnerable province in Cambodia.
 - Drought was the most severe natural hazard.



Drought frequency by province, 1988-2011 and area damaged by drought in 2004-05 in Cambodia.

Emerging issues ...Cont

- **Disasters impacts and social change**
 - Increase migration to urban and foreign countries
 - Increase more responsibilities of vulnerable groups (women, children, elderly without adult protection and poorest households)
 - Changes in social status and identity of the communities
 - From property owners to debtors
 - From framers to migrant workers...

On-going adaptation ...Cont

- **Perceptions of local community on climate change**
 - Not many Cambodians understand the basic science of climate change
 - Most farmers in KPS have limited knowledge and understanding about the cause and consequences of climate change or the disaster risks.
- **The responses of local farmers**
 - 1) **To Drought**
 - Supplying water to rice field during the prolong drought
 - Shifting crop calendar and crop variety
 - Increasing the use of chemical fertilizer
 - 2) **To Flood**
 - Spreading information about potential hazards among villagers,
 - Sending young kids and aged people to safe places
 - Sharing food commodities among affected families/groups

On-going adaptation ...Cont

- **Community commitment and participation in responding to disaster impacts**
 - local communities have high commitment and willing to participate in the DRR programs
 - They formed as CBO, whose roles to mobilize collectives in protecting natural resources, creating saving groups.
 - However, poor and vulnerable groups seem to stand behind the stages because they often spend most of their time for daily livelihood activities.

Existing loss and damage assessment (current and future)

• Lose Income sources

Year	Affect				Losses/damages			
	Droughts (Ha)	Pests (Ha)	Floods (Ha)	Livestock diseases (Head)	Droughts (Ha)	Pests (Ha)	Floods (Ha)	Livestock diseases (Head)
2009	1,475	1,270	-	2,524	332	-	-	189
2010	1,929	-	1,766	2,845	223	-	277	125
2011	-	-	-	3,698	-	-	-	191
2012	10,715	-	-	1,584	320	-	-	144
2013	2,239	-	-	2,398	-	-	-	139
Total	16,358	1,270	1,766	13,049	865	-	277	788

Source: PDA annual report 2013 cited in MAFF (2013)

Conclusion

- KPS was the third most vulnerable province to natural disasters due to low adaptive capacity.
- Agriculture is the most affected factor.
- Drought is most severe hazard.
- Communities have limited understanding on related root causes and the consequences of disaster impacts
- Disasters bring about severe incomes and infrastructure losses and social problems such as gender issues, school drop-out, social vulnerability.

Areas for improvement

- Exclusive livelihood programs should be established to assist the most vulnerable peoples and help stabilize their livelihoods in the short time period.
- Also, government agencies and development partners should work in close partnership to continue:
 - building community capacity;
 - providing them with necessary infrastructure such as irrigation systems, road and other techniques, which are beneficial for communities in long-term.

Thanks for your attention!