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To the stakeholders of DPA,

As Chair of the DPA Governing Board, I am delighted to share with you the Annual Report for 2015. Whenever I read our Annual Reports, they generate mixed feelings. It is always a pleasure to learn about the achievements of the year, but at the same time there is always a reminder of the ongoing needs of the poor and vulnerable in Cambodian society. DPA can never become complacent and “rest on our laurels” there is always something more to do. Like all organizations committed to sustainable development, DPA hopes that one day there will longer be a need for what it has to offer, but are realistic that day will be a long time coming because many Cambodians still face so many challenges.

Nevertheless, this Annual Report provides an opportunity to celebrate the sustainable changes in society and the environment to which DPA has contributed. DPA is again able to report impressive and tangible results from various activities in 2015 within the three implementing programmes. This is thanks, in large part, to the enthusiasm, skills and determination of the DPA staff to empower people and promote self-help in achieving development goals.

The Integrated Community Development Programme has continued its outstanding work supporting communities in five remote provinces on different issues: capacity building; women’s empowerment; community health in relation to water; agriculture and food security; and, climate change. It achieves success by working in partnership with all key agencies, including relevant ministries and departments of the Royal Government of Cambodia, and with other NGOs concerned with the same issues. The Partnership Programme has supported 16 community based partner organisations in five provinces to address various challenging issues, including food security, climate change adaptation, and natural resource management. The Development Education and Advocacy Programme supports the whole organisation to build capacity in advocacy, to promote a rights-based approach to development activities and newly emerging issues, and to develop communications materials and products for awareness raising.

Thus I am very pleased to share with you in this report the excellent accomplishments of the dedicated team who have once again supported communities across Cambodia to develop the capacity necessary to secure their livelihoods and move forward in a modern, globalized economy. The challenges remain, but we can afford to take some time to reflect on the many hurdles that we were able to overcome in 2015.

My mandate as a Board member has now come to an end and so I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has collaborated with DPA during my time as the Chair, most particularly the donors and partners who continue to show their trust in the organisation through long-term project support and cooperation. I know that DPA’s ambition and commitment to helping poor and remote communities will remain strong all the while that the need exists and so look forward to hearing about their future successes.

Jenny Pearson
Chair
DPA Governing Board
Message from the Executive Director of DPA

Dear Partners and Stakeholders,

DPA has established a strong reputation among Cambodian Non-Governmental organizations working in the area of community development and the donors who support them. This reputation has been built on many years of success, and DPA will continue to build on that reputation for many years to come. 2015 was the third year of the implementation of DPA’s four-year Strategic Plan (2013-2016). The organization focused on careful implementation of that plan while engaging in annual periods of organizational reflection that focused on successes, gaps and challenges so that its work can be improved. At the same time, key priorities of the organisation have been successfully pursued, especially in the areas of natural resource management and food security and in its efforts to continue to contribute to the alleviation of poverty and the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples. The main successes in these efforts are reported below. In addition, this report highlights the impacts of our work in our partner communities and among our beneficiary families in the success stories which are included.

As a result of all of the hard work of our staff to build local capacity and to strengthen community rights, we have watched the indigenous people and the women we work with achieve a better understanding of their rights and a strengthened willingness to participate in village and community development. Moreover, we have seen how these families have achieved better livelihoods by diversifying their sources of income even as they applied new agricultural techniques to increase the yields of their rice, and of the vegetables and other crops that they plant, and the animals that they raise.

Regarding advocacy, we continue to concentrate our efforts on building capacity in communities, among CSOs and with other relevant stakeholders, particularly those stakeholders that are related to the extractive industries and agro-business sectors. Our efforts focus on the principles and the issues of Free, Prior, Informed and Consent, business and human rights and corporate social responsibility.

Our aim is for all stakeholders to cooperate and to share our commitment to fully live up to the demands of social responsibility as it is articulated in today’s international legal frameworks. To facilitate this aim, in the past year DPA became a member of the Regional Technical Working Group on Public Participation in environmental impact assessment (EIA), along with the representatives of the five Mekong countries who will work together to develop standardized guidelines on public participation.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our funding partners for their generous and empowering support. That support has been instrumental in making DPA what it is today. Thanks are also extended to all of our development partners including target communities, local authorities, like-minded NGOs and government institutions for their active participation, positive collaboration and support. I owe a large debt of gratitude to my DPA colleagues for the working spirit of service, love and teamwork that they have helped to build. This has been the foundation of all of our achievements to date. I am fully confident that we will work together to achieve our goals, our shared vision, and our mission to reduce poverty and to promote democracy in Cambodia for many years to come.

Mam Sambath
Executive Director of DPA
Development and Partnership in Action (DPA) is a Cambodian non-government organisation (NGO) which localised from an international NGO called CIDSE. The organisation has been active in Cambodia for over 30 years, tackling issues as diverse as building capacity among community leaders, gender equality, natural resource management, food security, small business, health, WASH and water management. It has adapted as an organization to address emerging issues such as climate change and the impact of extractive industries as these topics have become more and more relevant in the Cambodian context.

DPA operates under its strategic plan, 2013-2016, which envisions an end-state where all Cambodians enjoy a high quality of life as full citizens, accessing, using and protecting their rights. This strategic plan also focuses on the areas of natural resource management, climate change resilience and food security. It provides support to grassroots organisations and social enterprises and pursues other initiatives related to livelihood. DPA continues to apply the key approaches that they have long been committed to, Community Organising (CO) and Rights Based Approaches (RBA), as they work to empower and support poor and vulnerable families and communities, build community resilience, build engagement and cooperation with relevant stakeholders and advocate for an enabling environment for sustainable development. By these means, and through these approaches, poor and vulnerable Cambodians in target areas will see an increase in their access to rights and resources, improved livelihoods, increased ownership, improved capacity for participation, increased opportunities for leadership by women, the youth and indigenous people (IP) and increased community resilience in the face of natural hazards and disasters.

DPA has three main programme areas: Integrated Community Development Programme (ICDP); Partnership Programme (PP) and Development Education and Advocacy Programme (DEAP).

Our Vision
All Cambodians enjoy a high quality of life as full citizens, accessing, using and protecting their rights.

Our Mission
DPA partners with, empowers and supports poor and vulnerable Cambodians, especially in rural areas, actively contributing to an enabling environment for sustainable and equitable development.

Our Value
1. Transparency - We believe openness is essential for earning people’s trust and support.
2. Accountability - We believe we must first answer to the people and communities whom we serve. We also recognise the importance of answering to the government, our donors and each other.
3. Participation - We believe all people should have a say in the matters that affect their lives, especially poor and vulnerable people.
4. Partnership - We believe that strong, respectful and mutual relationships with the individuals, communities, DPA partner organisations, donors, and other stakeholders with whom we work are the foundation of our success.
5. Equity - We believe that everyone must have equal opportunities and derive equal benefits from development, regardless of gender, religious, indigenous status or disability. No one can be left behind.
6. Empowerment - We believe that the benefits of our work will be sustained only when poor and vulnerable people can exercise their rights, draw on their strength and courage, and seize the opportunities available to them.
7. Ownership - We believe that our best work promotes and supports others to take the lead and accept responsibility, when the communities and individuals that we support believe that they are responsible for their own development.
8. Sustainability - We believe that development must not only meet the needs of people who are alive now, but must also not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs.
9. Innovation - We value creativity, learning and taking risks in both ourselves and others.
The DPA’s Integrated Community Development (ICD) programme deploys and manages five provincial ICD teams. They work in the provinces of Kampong Thom, Mondulkiri, Preah Vihear, Ratanakiri and Stung Treng. Their work focuses primarily on poor and vulnerable households in indigenous communities, in 81 villages in 23 communes, in 11 districts. The programme has focused on capacity building, gender mainstreaming, improving food security, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) and water resource management, natural resources management (forest and river resource conservation and protection and communal land titling), agriculture, social enterprise and other livelihood initiatives, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and emergency response.

ICD teams have worked closely with community members to improve their knowledge and to coach and mentor them as they apply new skills and to build their capacity to carry out activities on their own. While the majority of the ICD programme activities involve a rights-based approach, the programme has also been piloting people-led development and aims to incorporate the most successful elements of these efforts into its work. Staff members have also worked to build links between communities and relevant government departments, private companies and middlemen or markets.

**Key achievements in 2015 include:**

- **Two villages in Stung Treng Province,** including 144 indigenous Prov and Kuy households (455 people; 218 females), received interim protection measures from the Stung Treng Provincial Governor for their communal lands.

- **Five IP villages (three in Ratanakiri and two in Mondulkiri),** where 617 households are found (2436 people; 1261 females), continued to pursue the process of IP Legal Land Registration.

- **Three IP villages (two in Ratanakiri and one in Mondulkiri),** comprising 340 households (1,149 people; 450 females) have moved very close to completing their IP Legal Entity process with the Ministry of Interior.

- **Three villages (two in Kampong Thom and one in Ratanakiri),** involving 275 households (1,085 people; 528 females), received the final government confirmation of their IP Legal Identity in December 2015.

- **Eleven IP villages (six in Ratanakiri, four in Stung Treng, and one in Preah Vihear) have successfully reached the final steps of the CF Management Plan that will allow the CF management Committees (and their members) to autonomously manage their community forests. This outcome benefits 1,292 poor households (3,401 people; 1,705 females) and will allow them to own and manage 7,541 hectares of forest land, forest resources and sources of NTFPs.

- **Seven villages (five in Stung Treng and two in Kampong Thom) have benefitted from increased fish stocks through fish conservation of 1,523 hectares of river-side land and seven hectares of fish sanctuaries. Two CFiFS Agreements have been officially recognised by the Fisheries Administration (FiA) and the members of the two community CFi committees are developing CFiFS Management Plans.

- **The number of AC members increased from 204 to 232 (138 or 51%, are female). In 2015, credit funds in the three ACs grew from USD 12,500 (as a one-time capital assistance from DPA and additional money from shares and savings among the members) to USD 18,238.80.**

- **Some villagers in 12 Ratanakiri villages have adopted resilient agricultural practices, especially for rice and vegetable growing as they selected resilient rice seeds, and used drip irrigation and mulching techniques for vegetable growing for home consumption and to increase their incomes. In addition, 25 sites using the Integrated Farming System have been established by 28 farmers in ten villages as models for their neighbours to study and to replicate. In addition, 355 farmers in 12 villages in Preah Vihear have preserved and used local upland rice varieties to plant and to mix with local vegetable varieties.**
• Around 70% of 1,161 farmers in Ratanakiri used appropriate agricultural techniques as they planted rice, vegetables, soybeans and cassava to increase their yields.

• Around 95% of 438 farmers in Stung Treng have an increased interest in planting rice, vegetables, cash crops and family pond fish rearing. Two hundred and eighty eight farmers in Preah Vihear have learned from experienced farmers how to make compost and have planted vegetables that are resilient to drought for family consumption.

• Forty-eight households in Chork Chey and Sambo villages have employed various advocacy strategies to re-claim their farm land. Since May 2014, they have worked hard to get back 110 hectares of land from Chinese companies by submitting petitions and complaint letters to the provincial governor, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), the National Assembly, and the Cabinet of the Prime Minister.

• 370 households (842 people; 450 females) in four villages (Chork Chey, Kra Loat, Sambo, and Sra Em) have lobbied local authorities and the provincial governor in favor of the protection of 5,553 hectares of forest land and forest cover through the establishment of community forestry. It will become major source of livelihood for them. As this report is being published, the village and the commune chief, the Provincial Forestry Administration support the establishment process.
Water drinking facility & dispensing system in Changraing village

Access to water is crucial to life anywhere, and for the highland inhabitants of Ratanakiri and Mondulkiri provinces, this becomes most difficult during the dry season. During this period, which starts in late November or early December, and does not end until the first rains in late May or early June, many families have insufficient drinking and cooking water. However, even in the rainy season, when water is plentiful, there can be problems: water which has flowed downhill and across the ground to gather in low areas (such as open wells) can be polluted, unclean and unfit to drink. In the past, villagers who collected this water to drink and for other daily uses, faced health problems like diarrhoea and typhoid fever. In light of these problems, which are common across many of DPA’s project villages, not just in Changraing Village, DPA sought funding to provide Changraing households consistent access to clean and safe water by building them a deep well / water dispensing system.

In early discussions with the community, a community pond was selected as a possible solution to the community’s dry season water problems. However, investigations and tests determined that the ground could not retain water well enough to last the dry season, and the community requested that a deep well and water dispensing system be built instead. DPA’s CBCCA project, with financial support from Fondation Ensemble, selected a contractor to dig the 57
meter-deep well with a diameter of 2.5 centimetres. Community members assisted DPA staff to collect dirt to build a small elevation for the water tank (to facilitate the gravity flow of the water) and to bury the pipelines that run from the tank to the each house in the ground. Community members contributed their labour and a total of USD 250 to install the water dispensing facility. After the facility was complete and as it became operational, a water management committee was formed to oversee the management and the maintenance of the system. DPA’s RTK team provided an electric engine to pump water from the well into the tank so that it can be fed to each household and, in the evening, to provide electricity to the households.

When the entire system became operational, fifty-six households were connected to fresh, clean water brought up from deep underground. The management committee has five members and is responsible for collecting monthly fees from each member of the water distribution system, conducting routine and scheduled maintenance, conducting repairs as necessary and collecting money to pay for the fuel used to run the engine for the pump. Community members agreed to pay 3000 Riel (or USD 0.75) for each cubic meter of water that they consume, and 2500 Riel (approximately USD 0.62) for each kilowatt of electricity that they consume. The electricity is generated by the pump and is available to the household from 6:00 to 9:00 PM each night. All of the households agreed that the water from the well is only for cooking, washing clothes, drinking, and other priority household needs but not for agriculture.

For instance, Mrs. Ngek The, is 52 years old and of the Tumpoun ethnic group, who is living in Changraing village, Patang commune, Lumphat district, Ratanakiri province. She has two daughters living with her in this village. Her family is dependent on agriculture for their livelihood.

She told DPA staff that collecting water in open streams had always been a struggle. During the dry season there was often not enough water for household use and for consumption as the streams and open wells went dry. Members of her family, from time to time, suffered from diarrhoea and from typhoid as a result of drinking contaminated water. Seeking treatment for these health problems put a strain on her family’s finances. It is a habit among the indigenous Tompoun that they are not as careful as they should be about boiling water or using water filters before drinking. After the water drinking water facility was constructed in 2015, she and her household became members of the facility.

Mrs. N’gek says that her family’s livelihood and health have improved since the water facility began supplying water to her house. She no longer has to spend time collecting water from open sources far from her home and does not have to worry about a lack of water for household use and for consumption. The time that she and her family have saved from collecting water she can spend on farming. She is more careful about boiling or treating the water before consumption and her family has not had any health problems since her house was connected to the water system.
New Techniques in Growing Vegetables that Adapted to Climate Change

Environmental issues have become an area of heightened concern in every country. Rises in temperature and the increase in the incidence of flood and drought impact agriculture around the world. That impact falls disproportionately on the poorest of farmers, especially if preventative measures have not been taken, or are only limited in effect. Cambodian farmers have faced the impact of changing weather patterns for the past few years, and many still do not know how they can minimize the risks that they face. DPA has been working in more remote rural villages to help these farmers to help themselves to limit the impact of changing weather patterns on their crops by promoting more techniques to make crops more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Located in northeast part of Cambodia, along the Sesan River, Kampun Village is about 13 km from the Stung Treng Provincial Center. The village consists of 497 households totalling 1,931 inhabitants, 971 of whom are female and most of whom are farmers who rely on agriculture as their main source of livelihood. However, floods occur frequently in this village, making it harder for villagers to secure food for their daily consumption.

Mrs. Pheu Khamfat, 52, is a subsistence farmer who lives in Kampun Village, Kampun Commune, Sesan District, Stung Treng Province with her husband, Mr. Pheng Noudeng, 48, and their three children. Pheu Khamfat and her community have been affected by climate change. “The weather keeps changing. In the dry season, it is very hot, and in the rainy season, when the rains do come, they can come too heavily,” she said. Approximately 80% of the households in Kampun Village have been affected by floods. “It is so hard to grow anything while our farms and crops are flooded. Because of that, the villagers have not been able to earn a living, some were forced to find jobs in other villages and or have worked as paid labour,” she said. In regard to the effects of climate change, she explained: “we can’t do more than just try to survive the day. Even when crops are damaged, I have no option other than to continue with them and to hope that things will improve.”

Pheu Khamfat is now a model farmer in the Integrated Community Development Programme (ICDP) of DPA. The programme is helping communities in the area to protect themselves from the worst effects of climate change. The programme provides training sessions and advice to community members on agricultural adaptation techniques which can reduce the risks that their crops face from heavy rain and drought. For example, they provide resilient seeds which are more suited to the changing weather conditions which are connected by many to climate change.

Pheu Khamfat has tried to protect her vegetables from flash floods by creating a raised vegetable bed and covering it with plastic mulching so that heavy rains or flash floods will not destroy her vegetables. “Since I started to raise vegetables using this technique, I have been very successful. As a result, I was able to gain an income of 500,000 riel (about USD 125) from selling my vegetables per time,” said Pheu Khamfat.

Is Pheu Khamfat positive about the future? She says that her hopes have increased because her crops have improved since she started planting by these techniques. She is also positive about the help offered by DPA. As a model farmer, Pheu Khamfat has been trained to share her experiences and knowledge more widely, and she says that she feels it has made a real difference in her community. She says: “I have benefitted so much from using these techniques and I am always happy to show other farmers in my village how they too can do this. I hope my example will help others.”
Livelihood Improvement Through Vegetable Growing

One way in which DPA works to improve food security in its target villages is to increase agricultural productivity. In Mondulkiri Province, DPA works with community organizers and model farmers, even as it cooperates with the Provincial Department of Agriculture to disseminate knowledge and train villagers on skills related to sustainable agriculture.

A mother of two and a grandmother of two grandchildren, Mrs. Khat Sophat, aged 58, is a farmer who lives in Srae Ampil Village, Srae K’tum Commune, Keo Seima District, Mondulkiri Province. Her family is one of the poorer families in the village. In addition to growing rice in the rainy season, she collects non-timber forest products from the forest near her village, and harvests the vegetables and cash crops that she plants: cucumber, chili pepper, cabbages, cassava and corn. However, though she has worked hard on these projects, her crops have not been very productive.

In order to improve the living conditions of the communities through agriculture, the ICD-MDK team encourages people to adopt sustainable farming systems for rice, vegetable and crop cultivation in combination with livestock and fish raising.

“I really wanted to get involved in the activities because it offered me a chance to increase my family’s income through existing resources. That is why I decided to participate in the DPA-ICDMDK project,” Mrs. Sophat said. As a member of the ICDMDK project, Sophat attended various training sessions that included seasonal planting, WASH, home garden growing techniques and livestock husbandry.

She comments: “I applied my skills and I saw an improvement in my vegetable and cucumber plots. I learned a lot about new agricultural techniques including how to select and keep vegetable seeds properly, and how to make compost fertilizer and natural pesticides. I applied compost on my cucumber plants, and after only a few days, they became green, and soon produced flowers and fruit.”

Since completing the training and applying the techniques that she learned, her hard work has provided her with a net income of 1,690,000 Riel, or, USD 423 from selling the cucumbers that she planted in her 810 square-meter garden. Besides growing cucumbers she also grows black peppers and various vegetables like garlic, chili and spinach.

Sophat said “I am really happy that my family’s living condition has improved and that my crops have grown so well. I will expand my vegetable plots and increase my pepper planting because they have provided my family the most income.”

Mrs. Sophat is harvesting her cucumbers
Communal Land Titling

Rovieng and N’gorn are villages located in Sandan commune, Sandan District, Kampong Thom Province. Both of the villages have more Kuy IP households than other villages of the two project communes. The communities of Rovieng and N’gorn villages, especially Kuy IP households, lost their land to companies having economic land concession for rubber plantations. The Kuy IP’s are concerned about losing their culture and their traditional way of living, so the project was designed to include particular interventions aimed to protect Kuy IP’s culture and traditional way of living by facilitating communities to register their land through communal land titling. This process is time consuming and the specific steps needed to achieve government recognition are numerous. However, within this reporting period, and in collaboration with PDRD, the IPCC has completed all documents for IP legal identity registration.

The Kuy IP communities are strongly committed to registering their land through communal land titling. “I hope that our community land will be protected as well as our culture and the practice of shifting cultivation,” said Mr. Pov Khouy, an IPCC chief in Rovieng village. He noted that once their land gains legal recognition from the government, it will be secure as a source of livelihoods for the Kuy households in his village. “As an IPCC chief, I observed that all IPCC committees have worked hard to complete the process of filling out the relevant documents for IP legal identity registration. The IP households in Rovieng village have also given us good cooperation. As a result, one hundred percent of the IP households in the village have registered to be a member of Kuy IP to the IPCC,” said Mr. Khouy.

The IPCC chief in Rovieng village, Mrs. Heng Saphen, says that the attitudes of the IPCC members in Ngorn village are also positive, and IPCC members support and feel happy about the project intervention. “Not only will the land be protected, but so too will be the culture and the lives of IP communities when the communities are able to receive official recognition from the government for their land,” Mrs. Saphen said. Almost all IP households have been willing to register themselves as a Kuy IP and 90 of 98 households filled relevant documents to prove their ethnic identity, as legitimate Kuy members of N’gorn village.

In both villages, IP communities have benefitted from ICD-KT support in facilitating the process to gain collective legal ownership of their land as quickly as possible. They also hope that ICD-KT funding partners will continue to support the project interventions in their villages as well as at the commune level.

ICD-KT not only supported these two communities to register for communal land titling but they also assisted them to gain the skills required to increase their agricultural productivity, adapt appropriately to climate change and to engage in advocacy for their rights. In this reporting period, these two IP communities have not yet received an IP legal identity certificate, but the assembly to evaluate IP identity will be held in the first semester of 2016.
From Learning to Improving Small Business Towards Greater Incomes

Miss. Kong Sareth, 25, is a partner farmer who lives in Chhaeb Lech village, Preah Vihear Province. Her family has five members (three women). They farm two hectares of upland rice land, but there is only limited access to water. Thus rice production from that land is insufficient to feed her family. To supplement her income, Kong Sareth rented a shop near Chhaeb market to sell groceries. One month’s rent is 100,000 Riel (about USD 25 equivalents). In the shop, she sold various kinds of drinks, instant noodles, eggs and other consumables. On average, she was able to make 20,000 to 30,000 Riel in net income each day. However, this income was still not enough to meet her financial obligations and to support her family.

In order to increase her income, in 2014, Sareth attended training organised by DPA in the Preah Vihear provincial center, on feasibility studies and marketing. With the basic knowledge of the six steps of feasibility studies and of marketing concepts, she now runs her small business more successfully. After observing the situation in Chhaeb District, she concluded that the number of people who prefer to eat in local restaurants has been increasing. She observed Cambodians were migrating from other provinces, looking for work in Preah Vihear, taking advantage of improved road conditions.

She hoped that running a different business would allow her make more money for her family. She focused her market research on the food sellers in Chhaeb market, in order to understand customer preferences and to learn from other food sellers. She learned which foods and drinks sold best, what time the locals preferred to eat, about the extent of her competition (the number of existing restaurants), the prices charged for food and drinks, how to manage a restaurant, and the possible risks.

With this information, she calculated costs and profits, and analysed marketing strategies to compete with the existing restaurants. Based on her analysis, Sareth decided that selling food would be profitable. In December 2014, Sareth decided to convert her grocery shop into a small food shop and began to sell cooked rice, Khmer noodles, and various kinds of drinks. With her new business, she increased her net income from 30,000 to 40,000 Riel per day.
DPA Partnership Programme works with 16 partner organisations, of which seven are CBOs, seven are ACs and two are CNGOs. These are located across five provinces: Kandal, Svay Rieng, Battambang, Ratanakiri and Kampot. The programme’s main emphasis is on the areas of food security, climate change adaptation (CCA) and natural resource management (NRM). Gender is a cross-cutting issue. The strategies to achieve programme goals and objectives are capacity building support (which includes training, workshops, coaching and exposure visits), as well as funding support to projects which are reviewed, appraised, monitored, and audited by DPA.

Key achievements in 2015 include:

DPA’s PP has worked to support capacity building and provide funding to 16 partner organisations whose work has positively impacted 1,096 poor and vulnerable households (partner target beneficiaries). The key achievements have been the following:

- These households learnt and practiced relevant rice production techniques and income generation skills. Four hundred and fifty beneficiaries, of whom 193 are female, and all of whom are members of one of 226 VDAs supported by DPA’s partner organizations, improved their self-management skills. Ten partner organisations are in the process of developing and strengthening Agricultural Cooperatives.

- Seven hundred and seventy-eight ID Poor I and II households (partner target beneficiaries) learnt and practiced CCA and DRR knowledge. Four partners (VS, PK, ADOVIR and KCDA) are working with nine CFs and CPAs. Out of the nine CFs and CPAs, seven have been recognised by the government and are being assisted to implement their management plan, while the other two are in the process of development and are preparing for government recognition.

- Six partner organisations have developed gender equality promotion policies and are implementing them. Five hundred and seventy-six VDA members, of whom 256 are female, in 289 different VDAs, participated in capacity building activities to learn about (and practice) facilitation skills and women in leadership.

- By early 2016, A Community Based Organisation (CBO) partner in Kampot Province called Samakum Trotrong Sethakek Kasekor (TSK) (Farmer’s Economic Support Association) will undergo a transformation from a CBO to an Agricultural Cooperative (AC) in order to enhance the prospects of their future sustainability. Until now, the Kampot Provincial Department and Chumkiri District Office of Agriculture support the formation of two ACs called Ponleu Thmey (PLT) and Samaki Meanchey Rovieng (SMR) by TSK. These two new formal ACs will be formed and officially recognized by the Provincial Department of Agriculture at the end of 2015.

- All partner organisations, except ACs, use DPA’s Capacity Assessment System to assess and to improve their organisational and programme management capacity. Most of them are in the ‘maturing’ stage and PP staff will assess the capacity of partner organisations at the end of 2015 before writing their capacity development plans for 2016.
**Success Comes From Perseverance and Endeavour**

Por Samrong (PSR) is one of DPA’s five agricultural cooperative partners in Por Village, Kampot Province. PSR was established in 2011 with 59 members (46 of whom were women) and 195 shareholders. The total initial capital input for PSR was 15,800,000 Riel (approximately USD 3,950). PSR became a partner of DPA’s Partnership Programme in 2012 after DPA’s ICD Programme phased out from Chumkiri District. PSR mainly focuses on providing communities with the necessary tools and assistance to be able to safely manage income, provide credit, and assist in development work primarily funded by DPA.

However, the capacity of PSR governing and supervisory board members is still limited, especially the new members that were recently elected. To improve this, Partnership Programme has provided capacity building sessions and coaching that focuses on proposal writing; financial, programme, organizational, and credit management, in addition to help on reporting as well as providing a small amount of financial support.

Mrs. Ouk Thach, 38, was elected to be one of the PSR governing board members in 2010. She has three children and lives in Trapeang Prey Village, which is located in Sre Samrong Commune, Chumkiri District. Previously, Mrs. Thach was a housewife. She focused on taking care of her children and her husband, on household chores and cultivating rice for household consumption. Despite being good housewife and mother, she seriously sought ways to involve herself in social work, to find a way to help her community and her family, but also to earn more income. In 2010 she joined PSR and was elected as a board member of the cooperative. “I was encouraged to be among the other candidates in the election. I was very happy with the result. It is one of the most significant changes in my life so far and I hope my life is getting better and better,” Mrs. Thach said.

As a PSR board member, Mrs. Thach attended training courses and workshops supported by the DPA Partnership Programme. Specifically, she attended courses on agricultural cooperative development, credit management, proposal development, fund raising and reporting. “From what I have learnt during the training and workshops provided, I am fully confident that I can fulfil my role and live up to my responsibilities as a board member of PSR,” Mrs. Thach said.

“Through support from DPA in terms of finance, and especially capacity building, all governing and supervisory board members have a remarkably improved capacity and we are able to manage our AC business,” Mrs. Thach said, adding that “in addition, we also have been supported and recognized by the local authorities and District Office of Agriculture as well as community members.”

Currently, the organizational capacity of PSR has increased from the ‘growing’ to ‘maturing’ stage and membership and shares in the organization have increased. By October 2015, there were 39,537 shares and the share capital was 39,570,000 Riel. The total PSR capital is now 518,279,000 Riel and PSR is able to earn around 15,000,000 Riel per month (about USD 3750). Aside from the income earned from credit, there are also the fertilizer and rice businesses that provide benefit not only to PSR but also to its members. PSR income can be used to pay overhead costs and contribute to some of its social activities. The amount of capital is increasing and PSR is in the process of learning to use a computerized accounting system.
Learning how to generate income from vegetable technique practices

The Khmer Community Development Association (KCDA) is one of DPA’s partner organisations. It works in Samlot District, Battambang Province, and focuses on food security, income generation improvement, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and natural resource management.

A father of four daughters and one son, Mr. Hun Mab, 46, is a farmer who lives in Prey Thum Village, Kampong L’pou Commune, Samlout District, Battambang Province. His family is one of the poorest families in the village; they own a very small plot of farmland, about 0.32 hectares, where he plants soybeans, green beans and vegetables. In the past, his crops did not grow well and his yields were low, which meant that his family suffered food shortages and lacked household assets.

In 2014, KCDA met with community representatives and the project management committee to select farmers to participate in a drip system agricultural project in Prey Thum Village. Mr. Hun Mab was eligible to participate in this project and to attend the training course on how to apply these crop cultivation techniques. KCDA provided him with the funds needed (USD 138) to apply what he learned from the training on his land.

Mab reported that “before I attended the training course, I planted crops by using traditional techniques. After attending the training course, I began planting cucumbers on 40 of land by using this system. After I applied these techniques on my crops, I have watched them flourish. I have been able to harvest 200 kilograms of cucumbers per month and I earn nearly 400,000 Riel (about USD 100) per month from selling them.”

As a result of these initial successes, Mab decided to expand his garden plot to 800 square meters. His yearly harvest increased to 1,000 kilograms as a result, and his earnings to 2,000,000 Riel (about USD 500). Mab said “with this system, not only did I achieve high yields but I saved water and fertilizer, reduced weed growth and plant diseases. My crops are more resilient to the damaging changes in the weather.”

At present, Mab is happy and proud of his achievements and yields, and he hopes that his family will not experience food insecurity in the future. But the story does not stop here. More recently, Mab expanded the amount of land that he plants to 1,600 square meters, and now includes crops such string beans, bitter gourds and watermelons in addition to his cucumbers.

Mab said “as a result of all of these changes, I am now able to earn between 30,000 to 50,000 Riel (about USD 7.5 to USD 12.5) per day from selling my vegetables.”
Livestock Rearing Generates Family’s Income

The Association for Development and Our Villager’s Rights (ADOVIR) is a DPA partner working in Bavel District, Battambang Province. Its work focuses on increasing agricultural yields, improving income generation, empowering people in local governance and assisting with natural resource management.

Mrs. Hem Sarin, aged 45, is a widow who lives in Chroy Sna Village, Khnach Romeas Commune, Bavel District, Battambang Province with her three children. Her family is one of a number of ID Poor II families in the village. She owns a small area of farmland (about 3,200 square meters) where she plants rice in the rainy season. Besides rice farming, she cultivates other crops and rears chickens. In spite of her best efforts, her family used to regularly experience food shortages every year.

In collaboration with community representatives and the project committee, ADOVIR selected Sarin in 2013 to take part in their food security and income increase project. After selection, Sarin attended training courses organized by ADOVIR to gain knowledge on paddy rice, planting crops, chicken raising and climate change adaptation.

“I was interested in all of the training courses that I attended, especially the training on chicken raising and after the training I received six chickens to care for. I was committed to using all of the knowledge that I gained from the training to improve my chicken raising,” said Sarin.

Sarin said “Previously, I raised animals using traditional techniques. I did not know how to protect them against diseases and never consulted the veterinarian. But now I am using techniques like preparing chicken pens, vaccination and providing natural food and I have found my chickens grow much faster. As a result, initially I was able to sell 10 chickens to a middleman for 169,000 Riel (about USD 42.25) and six she gave to new member, and subsequently, I got 195,000 Riel (about USD 48.75) and 22 chickens to raise.”

Sarin has put this money to good use. “I used this new income for buying medicines and buying food to feed my family,” she said.

Mrs. Sarin is very happy with her chicken raising and shares her knowledge and experience with other members in her community to help them to improve their livelihoods. “Thanks to ADOVIR and DPA, my family and other villagers have been helped. My family’s livelihood has improved,” said Sarin.

DPA continues to support ADOVIR and other partner organisations as well as being involved with these communities through building capacity and offering financial support to achieve their goals.
Development Education and Advocacy Programme (DEAP) and key Achievements

Given the need to address emerging and current issues in our programme areas (within the DPA ICD programme and among partner organisations), DEAP provided internal support to the ICD and to the Partnership programmes in implementing the Rights Based Approach (RBA) in development activities and facilitating their efforts to deal with emerging development issues specifically ones related to gender and development, protection of natural resource rights, land and forestry management, extractive industry (EI) social and environmental impacts and EI resource revenue management. The key working strategies of the programme emphasize capacity building, networking, supporting advocacy initiatives, engaging in advocacy and facilitating the establishment of communal land titling (CLT). The work by DEAP within DPA and with its partner organizations on these issues has had significant positive effects.

Key achievements in 2015 include:

- Positive behaviour changes among beneficiaries as both men and women are willing to share ideas in a public context, to discuss the most relevant gender and women issues, and speak to each other in a respectful manner.

- Women have an increased understanding of their rights and they have increasingly involved themselves in decision-making processes with regard to household assets and the use of family income.

- Young people, especially young women, are more involved in community development activities and advocacy work to address gender and natural resource rights issues in their communities.

- Community members, in particular men, value and support the participation of women in community development work and in leadership positions.

- Women and the youth in IP communities have become more actively involved in the process of community development and have assumed leadership roles more often. For example: there are increased numbers of women on village project committees and working groups, communal land titling (CLT), community forestry (CF), WASH and agricultural cooperative projects (30% - 40%).

- Significant progress on the achievement of CLT in six villages (Khmeng, Tuen, Taheuy, Taang 1, Lorm and Tus). The successes include: One CLT in Tus Village successfully completed the IP identity evaluation requirement and applied for IP identity at the MDKi; The two CLT target villages of Lorm and Ta Ang1 received approval from the MoI and the Provincial Governor of their IP community statutes; And the three CLT target villages of Khmeng, Teun, and Tahuey received approval from MoI on their IP legal entity on 26 June, 2015. The 2,658 villagers (1,252 women) in six CLT target villages feel more confident about the security of land ownership and planned to invest in agriculture production on their land in order to increase their income and improve their livelihoods.

- Target communities have increased their capacity and are able to stand up to advocate with relevant duty bearers to promote and protect their rights to manage their own natural resources and for sustainable community development.

- Communities have been more active in advocacy work to address emerging development issues.
- Increased solidarity and relationships between community members and relevant stakeholders has been observed.

- Community members are more confident about expressing their views and performing advocacy in the government and the private sector, using information that they collected.

- Network members at the national and sub-national level have collaborated in useful ways by forming a special working group for specific cases related to encroachment on forestland and illegal logging and organized and participated in joint advocacy initiatives.

- After training, 70% of CMFPs could raise awareness and were able to conduct echo-trainings for their communities on Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC); EIA and social and environmental impacts; and discuss Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

- Affected communities in Ratanakiri, Preah Vihear, and Oddar Meanchey provinces began to exercise their rights and initiated a dialogue with EI companies to voice their concerns, issues, and to seek responses.

- Trust and relationships with the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Ministry of Environment (MoE) have been strengthened. This has allowed CSOs to engage in development and consultation on EI policy, EIA guidelines and the Environmental Code.

- DPA-EISEI was invited to participate in two inspection trips with MME that focused on illegal mining, artisanal mining licenses, and metallic exploration licenses.

- DPA-EISEI and some members of EISEI Network, such as CLEC, Save Cambodian Wildlife (SCW), YRDP, Star Kampilchea and FACT, became members of the sub-technical working groups (STWGs) that focus on developing environmental codes.

- DPA-EISEI became the member in Regional Technical Working Group on Public Participation in EIA along with the representatives of the five Mekong countries to develop standardized guidelines on Public Participation.

- DPA-EISEI supported 79 villagers (32 women) (including CMFPs and affected communities) to participate in EIA report review process and attended two inter-ministerial meeting to provide comments on EIA report of Guangxi Nonferrous Metal Group, and Meng Xin Hong Fa.

- Engagement with the private sector on EI (Mesco Gold, Angkor Gold, Golden Resource Development and Geo-pacific, Yun Khean Minerals) has been built in order to promote multi-stakeholder dialogue between government, private sector, and affected communities.
Significant change in a married couple’s lives

Mr. Lit Nhee, 33, and his wife, Mrs. Lut Am, 27 live with their two daughters and one son in Ban Bung Village, Kampun Commune, Sesan District, Stung Treng Province. They are farmers and have 7000 square meters of rice land to cultivate. Besides planting rice, they work as day laborers to earn additional income to support their family. The couple is also one of a number of couples in the project that are involved in gender road-mapping/gender family planning.

Mrs. Lut Am said: “In the past, my husband drank alcohol every day and never helped me with the housework or to earn income. I was constantly criticizing him about his behavior and his attitudes. Sometimes he would yell at me and even hit me.”

When DPA became aware of this situation in 2015, the couple was selected to attend training on gender family planning in order to assist them in changing their relationship with each other to help them to develop a plan for family livelihood improvement.

“After attending this training, we became more aware of impact of domestic violence and we were able to develop a family plan for improving our family’s livelihood,” the couple said. “Now, my wife stops criticizing me as much as before. As a couple we are able to talk with each other about what we need and want individually and can consult with each other before we decide to do anything, especially about decisions related to earning money to improve our family’s social condition. Violence does not exist anymore in my family. In addition, we participated in food security activities, as members of the rice group supported by ICD-Stung Treng Province,” Mr. Nhee said.

Even though they have not yet reached the goals that they aimed for in their three-month plan, their training on gender road maps has helped to improve their relationship in obvious ways. Mr. Nhee has stopped drinking, he no longer reacts angrily against his wife, and he works harder to earn income for his family through rice and vegetable cultivation. He contributes to raising their animals and shares in the housework (for example he brings water every day from the river for cooking, and washing).

Mrs. Am told us that “I am really happy that my husband changed his attitude and behaviour like this. In fact, now he even helps me to complete other housework that previously he was never willing to participate in. Beside this, if he wants to go to outside or to drink wine with his friends, he always asks me first and when he returns home, he no longer yells at me like he did before.”

“What makes us happy is that we have better relationships with other family members, we have sufficient food to eat and our income has increased. With these results, we plan to finish renovating our house with the money we earn and expect that it will be completed in 2017,” the couple said.
The Model Community Advocacy Focal Point

Mr. So Sophat, 54, is a village elder in Malik Village, Malik Commune, Anduong Meas District, Ratanakiri Province. He lives with his wife, three sons and three daughters. Mr. Sophat’s family is one of 223 families in the village that were affected by an agro-industry firm called Heng Brother Company. Heng Brother Company is one of the Hoang Anh Gia Lai (HAGL) family of companies which received an economic land concession from the Government of Cambodia in 2009 to plant rubber.

“Since the company came to our village, we have become very concerned about the loss of our farmlands, forests and burial grounds. We even no longer have access to the forest to collect wild vegetables, firewood and other non-timber forest products for subsistence. Worse still, we even can’t utilize the river and other water sources around our village as we are scared by the presence of company staff and employees in this area,” he said.

In response to this, DEAP began to implement a project in 2012 that focused on safety on land, land governance and advocacy in Malik Village. Through the commitment as well as the encouragement of villagers, the project selected Mr. Sophat to work as a community advocacy focal point and community representative for the village. During this period, Mr. Sophat attended many training courses provided by the project including, Land Law, Forestry Law, human rights and IP’s rights, the importance of communal land titling for indigenous communities, advocacy strategies, business and human rights, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), corporate social responsibility (CSR) and facilitation skills.

Sophat is very active in the village and since he became the community advocacy focal point, he is constantly involved in advocacy work to protect his community’s property, especially the land and forests. He has played a role as a facilitator during village meetings. Meanwhile, DEAP collaborated with inter-NGOs working groups, which assisted and supported him and other community members to conduct village meetings and to raise community awareness, write complaint letters, to engage in community mobilization and to collect information, especially on how to deal with land conflict and how to advocate and negotiate with companies.

Through strong commitment and solidarity within the community, the local authorities strongly support the community’s advocacy initiatives and activities aimed to protect their land and forest from the concession company. As a result, at the end of 2015, a representative of HAGL officially announced that the Heng Brother Company will not carry out its projects anymore in that area and will return the remaining undeveloped land and forests (about 500 hectares) to the community. Furthermore, HAGL and the families issued a joint statement to clarify their agreement which affected 223 households: HAGL will stop the clearance of forest and farmland belonging to community members; they will not use chemical fertilizers on their rubber plantation, they will repair the roads and bridges that were damaged by their development activities, help community members to demarcate the village boundaries, and especially they will provide suitable compensation to the families whose land/farmlands was cleared, or will return the land. At the same time, HAGL apologized to all the affected families and each family received a cow weighing 400 kg and money in the amount of USD 500.

“I am really happy that community members as well as DEAP’s project trusted me and selected me as their representative and advocacy focal point. With technical support and capacity building from the DEAP, community members and I have been able to get a better understanding of the laws including land laws, forestry law, the importance of communal land registration, and IP’s rights. Most importantly, we understand effective ways to advocate with companies,” said Sophat. “I hope that through my commitment and capacity, I will be able to be a good advocator in the future and to safeguard my village,” said Sophat.
Public participation in EIA process and responsible mining development in Cambodia

A meaningful Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report represents all of the voices from investment project stakeholders. In this regard, public participation plays an important role in gathering key information and suggestions from participating community members, technical experts, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and government officials. In many cases, affected communities do not fully participate during the completion of EIA reports for mining company projects. This leads to an increase in the possibility of conflict at a later stage of the project.

Villagers in Rik Reay Commune, Roveang District, Preah Vihear Province faced several problems in relation to Guangxi Nonferrous Metal Group’s activities nearby. They had not been informed about the potential impact of the activities during the EIA process and received no compensation when they occurred. The company submitted its EIA report to Ministry of Environment (MoE) for review and approval in early 2015. Although the report claimed differently, affected villagers did not know much about the Company itself or its planned activities. They were not present at meetings held by the company and by local authorities to discuss the impact of the mining project. But community farming land was used by the company to build offices without permission or compensation and this problem has not yet been solved.

“Some villagers want a single sum of compensation calculated from total expected losses of future agricultural income, but others want an agreement that includes annual compensation,” Mr. Soeurn, the community leader, said.

Another example is a community in Pa’av Commune, Trapeang Prasat District, Oddar Meanchey Province, who were affected by a mining concession granted to Yun Khean Mineral Co., Ltd. The community did not know about the company’s operational plan or any of the company details. In 2015, an EIA consultant organised consultation meetings with the community, but only talked about land
ownership and provided little information about the impact of the mining. The villagers even mistook the consultants as government officials because they did not know what EIA was about. When original identification cards and land certificates were collected by the consultants from some of the villagers, they were told it was for verification and would provide a basis for compensation. In the event not all of the villagers gave up their land certificates, leading to confusion, which can easily lead to conflict. To date, the community has not been compensated for the farming land that was destroyed by the company.

A lack of public participation was also encountered with Mesco Gold Project, which affected the community at Peak Village, Oyadao District, Ratanakiri Province. The way that the EIA consultants conducted interviews with affected villagers was not described clearly, and the consultants gave soap or money after they finished interviewing the community. Mr. Poy Meun, a villager in Peak Village, strongly suggested that the company should conduct a proper public consultation with all affected villagers to share and discuss the impacts of the mining project.

He said, “Not all the villagers were informed and participated in the public consultation meeting organised by the company.” They said they wanted to have an open discussion with Mesco Gold and the EIA consultants as well as with other relevant stakeholders to share their concerns and what their community wanted, during quick assessment conducted by Provincial EISEI members in Ratanakiri Province.

The lack of meaningful public participation in the EIA process is continuing as a challenge, particularly for mining projects. Conflict and risks will be inevitably arise if they are not identified early and managed during the EIA report process.
### Income statement by 31 December 2015

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<th>Income</th>
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<th>2014</th>
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</thead>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1,478,443.42</strong></td>
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![DPA INCOME 2015](image-url)
## Expenditure Statement by 31 December 2015

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<tr>
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<td>Total Expenditure</td>
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<td><strong>1,463,250.48</strong></td>
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### DPA Expenditures 2015

![Bar chart showing DPA expenditures for different projects in 2015](chart.png)
Inspiring and Outstanding Staff
Mr. Khiev Sopheak

Mr. Khiev Sopheak is 54 years old. He has worked for DPA since 2007 as the team leader (currently called Provincial Project Manager—PPM) of Integrated Community Development in Ratanakiri Province (ICD-RTK). When talking about work at DPA, he thinks that he is working in a friendly and understandable institution, as well as a strong responsible and professional place. Moreover, DPA trusts its staff, in terms of experience, has a good reputation and valuable work. Mr. Khiev Sopheak graduated with a bachelor degree of veterinary science at the University of Agriculture in Mongolia in 1990. “Since I have worked with DPA, I has acquired new experiences such as staff and financial management, planning, planning implementation, monitoring and observing work activities, as well as the experience of communication with other institutions, NGOs, government officials and community members,” he said.

Ms. Lang Dany

Ms. Lang Dany is 29 years old. She graduated with a bachelor degree from Kampong Cham National School of Agriculture in 2010. She started working at DPA in 2014 as a community development facilitator in Preah Vihear Province. “DPA is an organisation with has a good reputation, accountability and governance. DPA has provided opportunities for all staff to get more knowledge, skills and capacity development as well as working in team,” Dany said. “Working at DPA has provided me with a lot of opportunities and make it possible for me to help vulnerable communities and poor families.” In her free time, she likes reading newspapers, magazines and books, walking, and watching movies.

Ms. Mout Chantheany

Ms. Mout Chantheany is 27 years old. She graduated with master degree in Geological Engineering in Indonesia, in 2013. She started working with DPA in 2013 as an assistance coordinator of DPA-EISEI and, in 2014, was appointed as coordinator of DPA-EISEI network. “I appreciate working with DPA because it is focused on integrated community development that helps improve the living conditions of poor people as well as support community who affected by mining activities,” Theany said. “I have gained a great deal of experience from DPA though writing proposals and reports, facilitation skills, especially communicate with relevant stakeholders include community members, private sectors, government officials and local and international NGOs.” In her free time, she likes reading books, walking, and watching movies.
Governance, Management, and Partners
DPA Governing Board
- Mrs. Jenny Pearson, Chairwoman
- Mr. Sam Inn, Deputy Chairperson
- Mrs. Ruth Andalecho Aitbah, Treasurer
- Mrs. Bun Sary, Member
- Mr. Soeung Saroeun, Member
- Mrs. Menh Navy, Member
- Mr. Tep Boony, Member

Former DPA Governing Board
- Mr. Koul Panha, Chairperson
- Mr. Yim Samnang, Deputy Chairwoman
- Mrs. Chhoeun Thavy, Deputy Chairperson
- Mr. Oum Vongnarith, Treasurer
- Mrs. Chamroeun Mudita, Member
- Mrs. Chet Charya, Member
- Mr. Chhith Sam Ath, Member
- Mr. Meas Nee, Member
- Mr. Pastores Jojo Emmanuel, Member
- Mr. Ouk Vandeth, Member
- Mrs. Patty Curran, Member
- Mrs. Ros Sotheap, Member
- Mr. Yeng Virak, Member

Funding Partners
- Big Lottery Fund (BLF)
- Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand (CANZ)
- Catholic Agency for World Development (Trocaire)
- Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CAFOD)
- Danchurch Aid/Christian Aid (DCA/CA)
- Development & Peace (D&P)
- European Commission (EC)
- Health Poverty Action (HPA)
- Manos Unidas (MU)
- Misereor
- New Zealand Aid Programme, Ministry of Foreign Affair and Trade
- Norwegian People Aid (NPA)
- Oxfam America (OA)
- Oxfam Novib (ON)
- Pact Thailand (PT)
- Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)

Management Committee
- Mr. Mam Sambath, Executive Director
- Mr. Chea Dara, Finance and Administration Manager
- Ms. Chrea Sandan, Gender and Development Officer
- Mr. Lay Sophea, Integrated Community Development Programme Manager
- Mr. Kim Sereikith, Development Education and Advocacy Programme Manager
- Mr. Kuy Sophal, Partnership Programme Manager
- Ms. Mout Chantheany, EISEI Coordinator
With the poor. For the poor.