



CAMBODIA

Developing Member Services through Collective Cashew Nuts and Distribution



Relevance



The primary business services of Aukorkei Agricultural Cooperative (AAC) are financial management and agricultural extension. In addition, the AAC plans to expand its business on the cashew nut value chain. Most of AAC members have cashew plantations, but farmers face many challenges. For example, the changing climate, such as the rise in temperature and change in the rainy season pattern, has affected the crops. Moreover, farmers often receive lower prices during harvest instead of a price increase and reap benefits. Among the causes are the farmers' lacking capacity as effective commercial suppliers. Agrinnovation Fund in ASEAN (AIF) is supporting AAC's idea to build and to improve members' capacities to supply and distribute marketable products.

Objective



- Provide technical assistance to set up storage systems/collection points in compliance with farming conventional method, as well as Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and organic farming standards of dried cashew nuts for local buyers.
- Enhance use of quality agriculture input and knowledge on climate resilience to AAC members and other farmers through local input distribution centres.
- Build capacity of 20 extension workers and train AAC members on properly using agriculture inputs and climate resilient agricultural practices.

Project Overview



Partner
Aukorkei Agricultural Cooperative (AAC)

Duration
June 2022 to
August 2023

Volume
31,340 USD
(79,591 USD in total)





The Project at a Glance

Expand business and capacity development of AAC/AAC's member services to supply or distribute raw cashew nut (RCN) and quality agriculture input. AAC will set up the collection point by constructing warehouses and concrete slabs to dry, store and sell RCN to local processors and traders during harvest season. During the off-harvest season, dry cashew nuts will be storage at the warehouse. AAC will strengthen its capacity for drying slab operation and to improve the grading quality of dry cashew nuts to meet the standard demand. Additionally, AAC will provide internal quality standard training to their farmers to produce good quality dry cashew nuts. AAC will set up the management system, product flowchart for the collection points and input shop to manage the internal services operation. Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (PDAFF) will support monitoring and advise to AAC.

Set up input distribution centres

Under the Agriculture cooperative umbrella, two input distribution stores will be set up to showcase the products. It will vary the products range to be more climate resilient. AAC will negotiate with input suppliers for support on extension services, marketing promotion, and terms and conditions for payment. Therefore, the farmer will pay less on input costs and easy access.



Refresher training of local extension workers (LEW) on climate-resilient agricultural practices

Some 20 existing LEWs trained by the previous project will be selected for capacity building on the proper use of agriculture input and to be more climate-resilient. In addition, LEWs will be provided extension services in collaboration with the input distribution centre and input suppliers to train 200 AAC members and other farmers.

Published by

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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As at

June, 2022