

**Report On**  
**First Innovative Platform Convening**  
**Under project**  
**Asian Chicken Genetic Gains (AsCGG)**  
**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021**  
**Time: 14:00-16:30**

**Reported by: LDC team**



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## **I. Introduction**

Asian Chicken Genetic Gains (AsCGG) project is 5 years project which are implementing in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam. The project is led by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) with partnership with National of Animal Health and Production Research Institution (NAHPRI) under General Directorate of Animal Health and Production (GDAHP) and Livestock Development for Community Livelihood Organization (LDC) in Cambodia. The aims of the project are to contribute and improved smallholder chicken systems through adapting new and proven genetic technologies and approaches that increase farmer access to locally acceptable and adapted. It also provides a platform for south – south learnings through the African Chicken Genetic Gains (ACGG) initiative implemented since 2014 in Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Tanzania. In addition to government research departments, the project envisages working with a small number of NGOs, partner with private poultry genetics companies to help develop a roadmap for a longer-term chicken genetic gains programmes in each country. There are eight national innovative platform (two national platform convenings per year) over the project lifetime (4 years project). The national innovation platform established with a primary goal of mobilizing public and private sector engagement in the smallholder chicken value chain

### **1. Objective**

The objective to conducted Innovation Platforms (IP) was to mobilize new knowledge produced and increased productivity in small scale chicken systems in Cambodia which encourage key national and local level stakeholders to evaluate options, discuss constraints, co-create solutions, facilitate 'matchmaking' among value chain actors and identify issues requiring policy attention within their immediate contexts.

### **2. Participants**

There were 70 (woman: 11) participants from different actors involve in chicken value chain in four provinces (Takeo, Kampot, Kampong Speu and Kampong Chhnang). The key actors attended in this meeting were NAHPRI/GDAHP, provincial office of animal health and production, representative from ILRI based in south east asia and Nairobi, Royal University of Agriculture, Heifer international Organization, ABK company, SK company, Chicken raising group, chicken producers, traders, medicine supplier and feed suppliers etc.

### **3. Meeting method**

The first innovative platform meeting was organized as hybrid meeting which provincial office was the host for participants from their province while other participants from different institution were attended by zoom link.

## **II. Results from convening**

### **1) Welcome and Opening**

- **Dr. Tum Sothyra**, director of national animal health and production research

institute (NAHPRI) has briefly about general review of the animal production in Cambodia. He indicated that animal production contributed about 10% of agricultural production and about 6% of GDP in Cambodia. Smallholder animal production played vital role an income generation, poverty reduction and meat supply which is currently increased the demand of the population. Because of market opportunity, animal farming is commercialized, otherwise could not meet with the demand. Poultry production of smallholders and commercial farm covered by 64% and 36%, respectively. However, smallholder production was not profitable because of poor genetic breeds, high cost of feed and seasonally infectious diseases. Furthermore, he also introduced the project of Asian Chicken Genetic Gain (AsCGG) which led by ILRI with partnership with Cambodia (NAHPRI and LDC), Vietnam and Myanmar from 2021 to 2024 in the objective of improvement of the smallholder chicken production by improvement of chicken genetic gain. This such project used to be successfully done in the Africa, so it will be implemented in ecological zones of four provinces of Cambodia such as Kampot, Kampong Speu, Kampong Chhnang and Takeo.

- **Dr. Fred Unger**, the representative of ILRI based in East and Southeast Asia stated that strongly cooperation by relevant partners from private and public institutions and correct selection of local genetic chicken are the important elements to succeed the project,

- **Dr. Dulce Simmanivong**, ACIAR representative in East and Southeast Asia noticed that participation and commitment of the relevant stakeholders are also important. However, the covid-19 pandemic influenced on chicken value chain from the producers to the end users. This project is very potential to improve the chicken value chain and makes the innovation platform for relevant stakeholders to share their experiences and other lesson learn and also to discussed further to find out innovative mechanism that could accelerate chicken genetic gain for production improvement.

- **Prof. Ed Rege, ECI-Africa**, introduced about expectations by mainly focusing on the linkage and participation from private and public institute to be more sustainable and also about the agenda of the meeting.

## 2) About the Project

Dr. Tadelles Dessie, project manager reported that this project funded by ACIAR and it was actually successful implemented from African Chicken Genetic Gains (ACGG) since 2014 in Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Tanzania. The outcome in this project will be productivity gain, nutrition gain, economic gain and functional innovation platform. It was noticed that, the production level of both body weight and egg were increased from 200-300% and 100-160%, respectively. How and why AsCGG project expand in South East Asia? because the interest of the researchers and development partners in learning from the experiences of ACGG. ACGG team from ILRI organized a scoping visit since April 2019 to meet researchers, development practitioners, private sector, operators and smallholder farmers. The objective of this visit was to 1). understand the policy and strategy environment in the countries, 2). To understand the aspirations of the farmers, private sectors operators and 3). To develop and submit a compressive report of the scoping visit to ACIAR and ILRI.



The vision of AsCGG is to make smallholder commercial poultry production to be a science-led, productive, remunerative and sustainable business that creates national wealth, enhances local-level livelihood and improve nutrition of households, especially women, their families as well as other sectors in the smallholder chicken value chain in South East Asia. This project also aimed to test and avail high-producing, farmer-preferred to support increased smallholder chicken productivity as a pathway out of poverty in Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam. It also has overview of objectives: 1). Identify, characterize and test tropically-adapted chicken germplasm to determine productivity across agro-ecologies and management condition and to define farmer preference, 2). Establish stable multiplication lines of farmer-preferred germplasm and develop IP models to facilitate private and public sector access to the germplasm through a long-term genetic gain program focused on continual improvement and 3). Development and nurture innovation platform at different levels to facilitate private sector engagement and business model development focused on empowering poor smallholder farmers, especially women, in the chicken value chain to improve their livelihoods. Three cardinal outcomes are expected: 1). Employment creation, 2). Wealth creation, and 3). Poverty reduction.

Smallholder chicken production system in South East Asia is part of the socio-cultural make up and balanced farming system in SEA and characterized as 1). low input-output system, dominated by low-producing chicken genotypes, 2). Poultry is owned and managed by household women, 3). Lack of effective long-term genetic improvement, multiplication and delivery system. It is also the vital opportunity for nutrition, employment, income, pathway out of poverty and equitable improvement. It was high potential for women's empowerment, egg and meat for home consumption and selling. It is also low-input-output system but with high potential for improved productivity across a range of the systems for contributing to demand, income, dietary diversity at household level and globally. Chicken production expanded by 56% in the last decade, growing from 5.9 to 9.2 million tons in 2018, and is expected to reach 12.3 million tons by 2028.

The AsCGG program focused on 1). Farmers-preferred productive adapted chicken germplasm option 2). Functioning innovation platform 3) Smallholder chicken producers (mainly women) and value chain actors. By this program, there are five expected outcomes such as 1). National decision makers (government, private sectors and development partners), 2). Through public private partners, smallholders have access to preferred, healthy and highly productive breeds, 3). Baseline evidence of the broader impact of improved poultry production and productivity to smallholder livelihoods, 4). Increased empowerment of women smallholder farmers in the chicken value chain in the rural communities, 5). Functioning multi-country "south-south" network of poultry scientists to support long-term chicken genetic improvement in Africa and Southeast Asia.

### **3) Keys activities by the project**

Dr. Tum Sothyra indicated briefly about key project components in Cambodia. The main project activities are noticed as below:

-  Baseline survey to define and characterize current smallholder chicken production system, including consumer demand for chicken
-  Confirm and characterized promoting indigenous breeds

- ✚ Design and implement indigenous breed improvement program (IBIP)
- ✚ Demonstrate and build the capacity of national partners to cryopreserve primordial germ cell (PCGs) of promising and endangered chicken ecotypes
- ✚ National innovation platform established
- ✚ Community level innovation platforms established
- ✚ Enhance the capacity of national agricultural research and development system on smallholder poultry value chain development
- ✚ Enhance the capacity of private sector actors-including farmers-on smallholder poultry chain development.

With specific outcomes below:

- ✚ Generated new knowledge on the productivity of both indigenous and introduced chicken strain in the Cambodia smallholder context. The on-station chicken performance testing will measure the potential of selected chicken strains for egg productivity, growth and product quality.
- ✚ Enhanced the national capacity of local partner institutions, optimizing the diversity of both geography and skillsets of project partners. Selected individual in Cambodia will travel to partner organizations so that they are exposed to different working environment and cross-disciplinary visit will be encouraged
- ✚ An innovation platform will be formed at both national and local community levels to mobilize new knowledge produced by the project and deliver increased productivity in small scale chicken systems in Cambodia.

#### **4) The concept of Innovation Platform**

Prof. Ed Rege, ECI-Africa, share his presentation on innovation platform approach and its relevance. Four innovation platform of challenge, value chain mapping, actor mapping and convening are mainly focused on in this presentation. He also indicated about the importance of partnership between national and sub-national level to gain the genetic and find out the challenge and solution. However, all stakeholders at both national and sub-national level must have a clear benefit from their participation along the value chain. The partnerships of AsCGG's core business are key by providing the support to partners. Furthermore, he showed that key pillars of innovation platform that provided the mechanism for the following processes such as collective diagnosis, inclusive solution finding and mutual accountability. The innovation platform is the systematic process or mechanisms, usually involving on-going face to face and/or virtual interactions, through which stakeholders engage to identify issues that affect their common interest and to co-create innovative solutions. The approach of innovation platform is using existing knowledge, tools in the new way to generate solution with enhance sustainability, efficiency or effectiveness.

#### **5) Analysis of National Chicken Value Chain in Cambodia**

Dr Chhay Ty, representative from LDC has present which focused on overview of chicken production in Cambodia including chicken population by different production system (smallholder, semi-commercial and commercial). Furthermore, local market demand and chicken value chain are also included. Three main recommendations to improve the local chicken production by smallholders were formation of cooperative, information accessibility and supporting from either private or public institutions.

### III. Summary and Close

Dr. Tum Sothyra make the summarizations about the project, mainly focused on the objectives, the linkage of partners and relevant stakeholders. He also mentioned that many challenges were handled with different solutions and people. Finally, he thanked all participants for contribution their valuable time in the meeting and proposed for their cooperation during project implementation.

### IV. Annex

#### Agenda

Time	Agenda Item
14:00-14:15	<b>Welcome and Opening (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Welcome and Introductions by <i>Dr Sothyra Tum, NAHPRI (5mins)</i> <i>Welcome remark</i> <i>4 provinces (Kampot, kg speu, kg chnang, Takeo)</i></li><li>➤ Opening Remarks by: <i>Dr. Fred Unger, ILRI (2 mins)</i></li><li>➤ ACIAR Opening Statement- <i>Ms. Dulce Simmanivong, ACIAR (3 mins)</i></li><li>➤ Expectations and Agenda- <i>Prof. Ed Rege, ECI-Africa (5 mins)</i></li></ul>
14:15-14:35	<b>About the Project (20 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ The context, objectives and implementation strategy – <i>Dr. Taddelle Dessie, ILRI – Project Manager (15mins)</i></li><li>➤ Key project components in Cambodia – <i>Dr. Sothyra Tum, NAHPRI (5mins)</i></li></ul>
14:35-15:25	<b>The concept of Innovation Platform (50 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Innovation platform approach and its relevance in the project – <i>Prof. Ed Rege, ECI-Africa</i></li><li>➤ Questions and Plenary Discussions</li></ul>
15:25-16:15	<b>Analysis of National Chicken Value Chain (50 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Chicken value chain Analysis: Current status, opportunities and challenges <i>Dr Chhay Ty, LDC</i></li><li>➤ Questions and Plenary Discussions – <i>Prof. Ed Rege, ECI-Africa</i></li></ul>
16:15-16:30	<b>Summary and Close (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Summary &amp; Implications, and Plans for 2<sup>nd</sup> IP meeting – <i>Dr Sothyra Tum, NAHPRI</i></li><li>➤ Closing Remarks – <i>Dr Sothyra Tum, NAHPRI</i></li></ul>

## Attendant list

No	Name	Sex	Position
International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)			
1	Ed Rege-(ECI-Africa)	M	
2	Felix IT support-ECI-Africa	M	
3	Tabelle dessia	M	PI and Project Leader, Nairobi, Kenya
4	Wondmendh Esatu	M	Design and Implementation of breeding programs
5	Shepa Akiyi	M	
6	Fred Unger	M	Regional Representative for East and Southeast Asia
7	Nhuyen Than	F	
General Directorate of Animal Health and Production (GDAHP)			
8	Mr. Soa Vitou	M	Department of extension and production
National Animal Health and Production Research Institute (NAHPRI)			
9	Dr. Tum Sothyra	M	Director
10	Dr. Bun Chann	M	Vice-Director
11	Dr. Pheang Meanghak	M	Officer and PhD student
Royal University of Agriculture (RUA)			
12	Mr. Prak Kea	M	Vice Dean of Animal Science Faculty
13	Mr. Hun Hiek	M	Vice Dean of Animal Science Faculty
Kampot Provincial Office of Animal Production and Health (POAPH)			
14	Mr. Meng Santepheap	M	Head office
15	Mr. Chey Phalla	M	Vice Head
16	Mr. But Bunmakara	M	Officer
17	Mr. Ki Ny	M	District vet based in Chhouk district.
18	Mr. Ros Nhor	M	Village Animal Health Worker
19	Mr. Nhe Samoeun	M	Chicken Producer
20	Mr. Oum Phor	M	Happy Farmer Chicken Raising Cooperative
21	Mr. Neak Vansa	M	Village Animal Health Worker
22	Mr. Koa Soa	M	Animal Feed supplier
23	Mr. Choup Chantha	M	Animal Medicine supplier
24	Mr. Mum Chansath	M	Live Chicken Trader in Kampot
25	Miss. Lao Kouy	F	Live Chicken Trader in Kampot
Kampong Speu Provincial Office of Animal Production and Health (POAPH)			
26	Tep Vichet Mony	M	Head office
27	Sek Chin	M	Officer
28	Minh Pao	M	Officer
29	Sieng Kethyarith	M	Officer
30	Um Setha	M	Officer
31	Long Thim	M	Village Animal Health worker
32	Kang Chanra	M	Chicken Producer
33	Sok Ratha	M	Chicken Producer
34	Thy Uy	M	Chicken Producer



35	Ngeth Samon	M	Animal feed seller
36	Song Kimhong	F	Chicken Producer
Takeo Provincial Office of Animal Production and Health (POAPH)			
37	Chhin Nem	M	Vice Head
38	Yim Borin	M	Officer
39	Les Sokhon	M	Officer
40	Cheng Chantak	M	Officer
41	Tep Sineoun	M	Officer
42	Chim Sokneth	M	Officer
43	Kang Eth	M	Officer
44	Thien Vannak	M	Chicken Producer
45	Se Im	M	Chicken Producer
46	Kheng Thon	M	Chicken Producer
47	Kan Phearoum	F	Chicken Producer
48	Moun Sreydao	F	Chicken Producer
49	Ngeth Buntheoun	F	Chicken Producer
50	Meas Lon	M	Chicken Producer
51	Long Seng	M	Chicken Producer
52	Bouth Chanda	F	Chicken Producer
53	Keth Saveoun	M	Animal feed seller
54	Vin Kimhong	M	Chicken Producer
55	Sum Phoun	M	Chicken Producer
Kampong Chhnang Provincial Office of Animal Production and Health (POAPH)			
56	Dr. Kreng Samart	M	Head office
57	Mrs. Mak Sokny	F	Vice Head
58	Noy Sopharith	M	Officer
59	Sok Saroeun	M	Chicken Producer
60	Sok Sothy	M	Chicken Producer
61	Oun Phoun	F	Chicken Producer
62	Kut Sophanna	F	Chicken Producer
63	But Bunthoeun	M	Chicken Producer
64	Kong Sarann	M	Chicken Producer
65	Prum Sophat	M	Chicken Producer
66	Theom Sophanneth	F	Animal Feed supplier
67	Ek Leakena	F	Animal Feed supplier
68	Chorng Chaily	M	Chicken Producer
69	Leoung Pheang	M	Chicken Producer
70	Eang Siyoeun	M	Chicken Producer
Non-Government Organization			
71	Dr. Chhay Ty	M	Vice Director of Livestock Development for Community Livelihood (LDC)
72	Dr. Huy Sokchea	M	Nutrition Officer in LDC
73	Mr. Vor Sina	M	Gender Officer in LDC
74	Mr. Son Pov	M	Researcher in LDC

75	Mr. Bun Roth	M	Poultry Specialist in Heifer International Cambodia Private Company
76	Sim Socheat	M	Business Coordinator in S.K Livestock & Agribusiness Co., Ltd.
77	Ly Kimlieng	M	National Poultry Specialist in S.B.K Researcher & Development Co., Ltd.

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting grid with 40 participants arranged in 8 rows and 5 columns. The participants are as follows:

- Row 1:** KRENG SAMATH; Kunthy Sok (Int...); Prak Kea; Interpreter Bunleng Cheung; Mulugeta Vitayih Birhanu
- Row 2:** son pov; Thanh Nguyen; Khampheng.Mo...; Sheba Akinyi; Noy Sopharith
- Row 3:** Wondmeneh Es...; ECI-Africa Board Room; Felix Odonde [IT Support, ECI...]; Mak Sokdy; OPPO A31
- Row 4:** Tep Vichetmony...; AsUS; realme C15 Qua...; OPPO A92; Galaxy A10
- Row 5:** Vannak Thien; vivo 1726; OPPO A54; RUA-Hun Hieak; Chan Bun
- Row 6:** Ed Rege - (ECI)-Africa; Vor Sina (LDC); Chhim Nem; Noy Sopharith; Menghak Phem
- Row 7:** But Bunmakara; Meng Santepheap; Chhay Ty-LDC; Vitou Sau; Tadelle Dessie
- Row 8:** Fred Unger ILRI...; Dulce Simmaniv...; Huy Sokchea; Dr Tum Sothyra; Nhem bunroth
- Row 9:** BT speaker lol; KRENG SAMATH; Kunthy Sok (Int...); Prak Kea; Interpreter Bunleng Cheung
- Row 10:** Mulugeta Vitayih Birhanu; son pov; Thanh Nguyen; Khampheng.Mo...; Sheba Akinyi