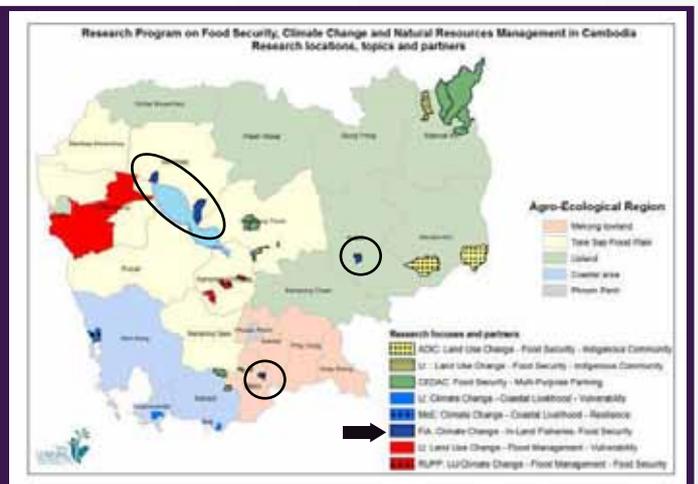


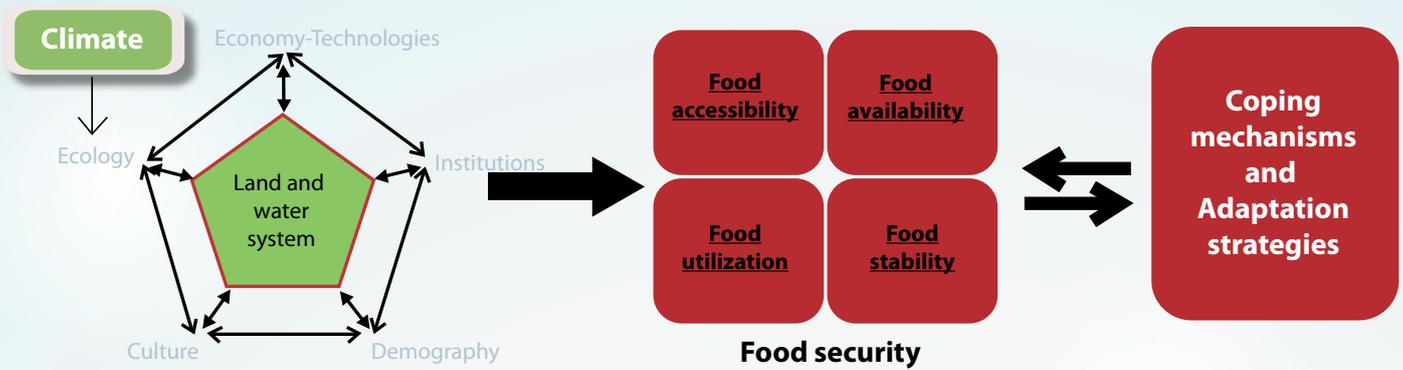
EFFECTIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ADAPTED TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Context and objectives

Much evidence has been gathered and studied regarding the impact of climate change on the fisheries sector, both marine and freshwater. The changes in precipitation patterns will affect seasonal flood patterns (Baran, et al., 2009). Any changes to flooding patterns will in turn affect the extent of the flooded forest and the resulting productivity of the fishery. Changes in flooding patterns may also affect the species composition of the catch and increase or decrease the availability of different species to different consumers. Increased rainfall in some areas could increase production from aquaculture; droughts in other areas could decrease productivity. The effects of climate change will not only threaten the fisheries sector but also other aspects of the

livelihoods of people living in fishing communities who also rely on access to land and agriculture. This research is mainly focused on the effect of climate change (in a context of environmental change) on the food security of Community Fisheries groups in Takeo, Siem Reap and Kampong Thom provinces. The research aims to capture the local perception of fishers regarding climate change and its impacts on food security and livelihoods. Furthermore, it explores how local communities have adapted within a context of stresses and shocks attributed to environmental changes. It then discusses possible interventions and supports that could help these communities in the long run. Based on the results of this research, recommendations will be formulated to enhance policies and strategies relevant to fisheries and climate change.





Methodology

Climate-driven change will be addressed in an overall context of environmental change involving a variety of other drivers. Extreme climatic events (drought, flood, storm etc.) will be documented and reviewed with local communities from an historical perspective. Their impact on the food security will be measured at community and household level in relation to the four dimensions of food security (accessibility, availability, utilization and stability). The short-term coping mechanisms and longer-term adaptation strategies to avoid food insecurity will be analyzed.

As the perception and experience of climate change differ greatly from one region to another, community fisheries groups will be selected from three different agro-ecological regions: Takeo, Siem Reap and Kratie.

Primary and secondary information will be collected and analyzed. Primary data will be collected from local communities and relevant stakeholders through a series of consultation workshops in each targeted province. To collect information from the local communities and relevant stakeholders, two tools will be used, focus group discussions and semi-structured interviews. Secondary information from numerous

textbooks and reports available on climate change as it relates to fisheries will be thoroughly examined.

Contribution to the program

Fisheries and aquaculture play important roles for food supply, income generation and employment. In their strategies of livelihood diversification, vulnerable groups are highly dependent upon fisheries. Climate change is likely to render their situation worse. Therefore, it is essential to gain a better understanding of the impact of climate change on the livelihoods of fishers in order to ensure effective community fisheries management. Furthermore, the linkages between climate change and food security in the rural community fisheries of the study area should be understood and addressed so that appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures can be proposed. Of particular importance is the assessment of local perceptions of the effect of climate change on food security.

Contact

Ly Vuthy, Team Leader
 lyvuthy.fia@maff.gov.kh
 Heng Kong, Assistant to Team Leader
 kong_heng2002@yahoo.com