Annex 5 RUA Phnom Penh

Abstract of presentation given at the 7th Asian Fisheries Forum, Penang, Dec 2004

AN OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF PERI-URBAN AQUATIC FOOD PRODUCTION SYSTEMS IN PHNOM PENH.

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Like other cities in Southeast Asia, especially, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh and Bangkok, Phnom Penh peri-urban areas are very important sites for producing and supplying food produced from agriculture. Aquatic areas around, peri-urban wetlands, are one of the important locations for cultivating aquatic plants and fish for the city and other areas of Cambodia as they are fertilized by sewage/waste water discharged from the city. The value and nature of these production systems are intrinsically linked with the livelihoods of many poor people living in and around the city. A study and appraisal of the value and impact of these systems is most important in order to understand and be constructive towards their sustainability within the overall future u development of the system.

The relative dependence of people livelihoods on this system, a broad assessment of the importance of rural-urban linkages, relationships, motivation and legal frameworks affecting current participation in peri-urban food production systems were conducted. To achieve these, participatory community appraisal was used as tools for this research. Market studies and institutional analysis were also carried out. Various participants from different spectrum of stakeholders were informed about the results of first year work plan in a State of the System workshop.

Four communities in and around Phnom Penh were identified and selected for this work package. Among these communities, two were involved in fish farming and two in aquatic plants farming (mostly morning glory cultivation).

It was found out that amongst the two fish farming communities, the main problems farmers were facing and their needs were slightly different from people who are living and based on aquatic plant farming, mainly morning glory. People living based on city wetland demand for basic needs for suitable living infrastructure while people/farmers in peri-urban area, blaming for lower income, security of their farmed animals, and wild fish resource depletion, and human health. Increasingly growing industries and human settlement around wastewater wetland causes limited land for farming, lower income, lack of capital; negative effect on morning glory and human health; and reduction of wild fish.

It was found in the market study that the main problems were small profits, price fluctuation of their produce, and health issues. It was suggested that the government should improve new markets and export sectors, tax and also provide both business security and facilities.

It was mainly concluded that peri-urban food production systems and their value are very important and valuable for peoples livelihoods. Modification of these systems can both negatively and positively affect their future

Annex 6 KU Bangkok

Cover Page of Bangkok State of the System report



วิถีชีวิตความเป็นอยู่ของประชาชนทั้งในและรอบๆ เมืองหลักของเอเซียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้



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Illustration of pictures of project activities during 2004

Interviews with household members for Baseline and Monitoring surveys







Water sampling and measurement



An example of individual household mapping



Papussa project Bangkok - Green T-shirt

