Trip Report: Cambodia
25 October-2 November 2013

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Randall Stith, University Relations, Virginia Tech

Purpose of Trip:
1. Record video for SANREM promotions about work in Cambodia
2. Go to University of Battambang to collect organizing information for the 4th Annual Conservation Agriculture in Southeast Asia Conference
3. Meet field technicians from SANREM sites in Battambang and Siem Reap

Sites Visited: Siem Reap, Cambodia
               Battambang, Cambodia

Description of activities:

Executive Summary:
Julia Katz and Randall Stith travelled to SANREM research sites in Siem Reap and Battambang, Cambodia, in order to record an informational video about conservation agriculture research in Cambodia. Activities included recording planting, harvesting, production, and marketing crops, as well as interviewing several SANREM-affiliated field technicians, farmers, and scholars. Additionally, Katz visited the University of Battambang to meet with administrators there in charge of planning the 4th Annual Conservation Agriculture in Southeast Asia Conference in order to collaborate on several logistical details.

Appendix: Log of Activities

Fri. Oct. 25 –
- Depart from Roanoke, VA Airport
- Depart connecting flight from Detroit to Seoul
Sat. Oct. 26 –
- Depart Seoul for Siem Reap
- Arrive in Siem Reap approximately 11:25 PM

Sun. Oct. 27 –
- Record the markets in the city of Siem Reap (Visit three major markets)
- Record important cultural sites within the city

Mon. Oct. 28 –
- Travel to field/research for Women of Siem Reap project
  - Record: drip irrigation, women farmers, horticulture (vegetable production)
- Meet Ren Ry, field technician, and interview
- Interview female farmers from Siem Reap Project (translation guided by Ren Ry)

Tues. Oct. 29 –
- Ferry to Battambang
- Record video on Tonle Sap lake area (Feed the Future priority area)
- General NW Cambodia shots while on ferry
- Check in at Seng Hout Hotel

Wed. Oct. 30 –
- Record University of Battambang video about SANREM partnership, university ag fields, students at work
- Interview with Vice Rector about developing conservation agriculture master’s program
- Meeting with Mane Horn of University of Battambang to discuss logistics of CA-SEA conference
- Meeting with Rada Kong, SANREM Cambodia Coordinator, in order to review shooting plan in Battambang-based research sites

Thurs. Oct. 31 –
- Interview with farmers at SANREM field sites (translation guided by Rada Kong)
- Record CA-based farms
- Record difference between small and medium sized farms
• Record maize production
• Record high elevation sites (slash and burn) and deforestation of Western Cambodia

Fri. Nov. 1 –
• Record footage of staple crops rice, maize, and cassava (with cover crops)
• Record soil degradation and limestone soils
• Continue interviews with farmers at SANREM field sites (translation guided by Rada Kong)
• Review footage with Rada and add additional footage from CIRAD-produced SANREM video from last year

Sat. Nov. 2 –
• Depart Battambang for Siem Reap
• Depart Siem Reap for connecting flights back to Roanoke, VA

List of Contacts Made:

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