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“Bridging the gap between increasing knowledge and decreasing resources”

Capacity Building of Higher Agricultural Education in Cambodia

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Abstract

The project Capacity Building of Higher Agricultural Education in Cambodia is focused on support of the improvement of quality of agricultural higher education in Cambodia through cooperation between experts from the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CULS) and Royal Agriculture University (RUA). The project is running since 2012 and is supported by the Czech Development Agency. The main aims of the project include support of development in the area of research, pedagogical and international activities. The project is based on direct contribution of CULS' lecturers and managers to the development of the RUA, especially at the following faculties: (i) Agricultural Technology and Management, (ii) Fisheries, (iii) Faculty of Agro-Industry and (iv) Agricultural Economics and Rural Development. The target group of the project includes students and teaching staff from RUA. The main activities are oriented to: Analysis of the current situation in the field of education, international relations and research activities at RUA; Building of pedagogical and didactical capacities of local academic staff, including teaching and consultations provided by Czech experts in the fields of fish production, fish identification and genetics; solar drying, marketing, agricultural economics etc.; Organisation of summer school “From net to spoon” for both Cambodian and Czech students. The main purpose of the summer school is to introduce to students from both universities the best practices in aquaculture including fish identification, fish farming and catching, fish transportation, fish processing and product quality evaluation and marketing. Implementation of the system of quality evaluation, organisation of Carrier days and Film festival oriented to actual agricultural topics. Identification and implementation of joint research topics, support of scientific activities of RUA and support of talented Cambodian students and their research projects. Evaluation of accreditation of the joint/double degree programme between RUA and CULS and preparation of joint project oriented to student mobility, providing the practical training for the students how to apply for international grants.

Keywords: Agricultural education, Cambodia, fish production, summer school