**RESEARCH IDEA**

Through observation we recognize that the rural population in Cambodia does not wear glasses. Therefore we ask ourselves:
1) Does vision vary among the rural population?
2) If so, does poor vision influence economic performance of farm managers?

**STUDY AREA**

The data collection took place in fall 2018 with 309 smallholder farmers, in Ratanakiri, north eastern Cambodia. While poor eyesight, not corrected by glasses, can be a worldwide problem, Cambodia presents a special case. During the Genocide in the 1970s, those wearing glasses were assumed to be part of the upper class and thus targeted by the Khmer Rouge. ¹

**METHOD**

**EYE TEST**

**RESULTS**

- **POOR VISION**
  - 62% remember trainings
  - 41% credit uptake
  - 479 $ USD/HECTER
  - 49% use of mineral fertilizer
  - 30% risk attitude

- **GOOD VISION**
  - 73% remember trainings
  - 54% credit uptake
  - 583 $ USD/HECTER
  - 80% use of mineral fertilizer
  - 66% risk attitude

**CONCLUSION**

Our data suggests that poor vision impairs farm managers in their daily business activities. The analysis puts forward that farmers with good vision have a higher productivity per hectare and that they get higher prices for their produce. Thus, treating poor vision can stop farmers from blindly wasting resources. Policies and extension that do not take vision into account will not support all farmers equally and leave those most burdened behind.

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**SOURCES:**
3. Stated Income.