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19<sup>th</sup> May 1999

MICHAEL HAYES  
Editor-in-Chief  
Phnom Penh Post  
10-A, Street 264  
Phnom Penh

Dear Michael,

Greetings.

Sharing with you herewith "Benchmark98."

Some 5143 Cambodian households could reduce the intensity of their chronic indebtedness by up to 9.61% during the period ending Dec98, benchmark Dec97.

I thought that that is news. We are aware that this is a progress that owe primarily to the hard work of the involved households themselves. Our participation was more to compliment only what they, the Cambodians, already earlier were doing about poverty eradication.

Our kind and warm regards to you.

Very sincerely,

*L.S. Miranda*  
LOT S. MIRANDA  
Coordinator

 HEKS  
CAMBODIA

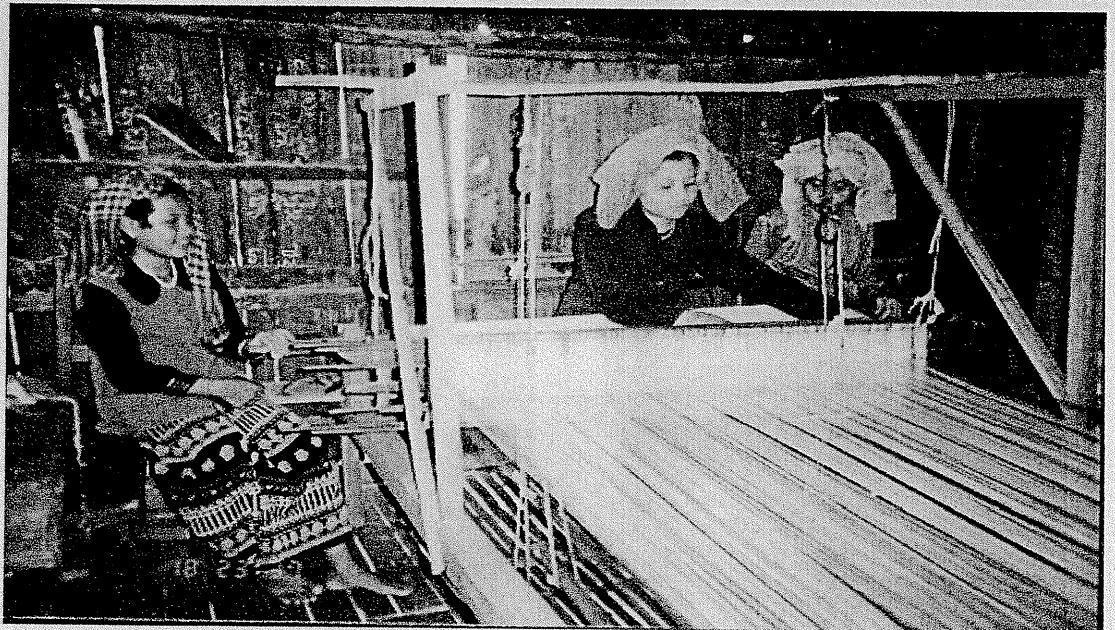


## CAMBODIA PROGRAMME.

### BENCHMARKS.

excerpts from the food security program report during year ending Dec98.

- Progress in the Capacities of Households that are Out-of- Deficit.
  - Spread of Households that remain In-Deficit; encouraging trends in the decrease of their number.
- The Continuing Intensity of Deficits in Basic Cost of Living of Households that remain In-Deficit.
  - Others.



... and some of the living pictures behind the benchmarks!



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*L. S. Miranda*  
LOT S. MIRANDA  
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## **GLOSSARY.**

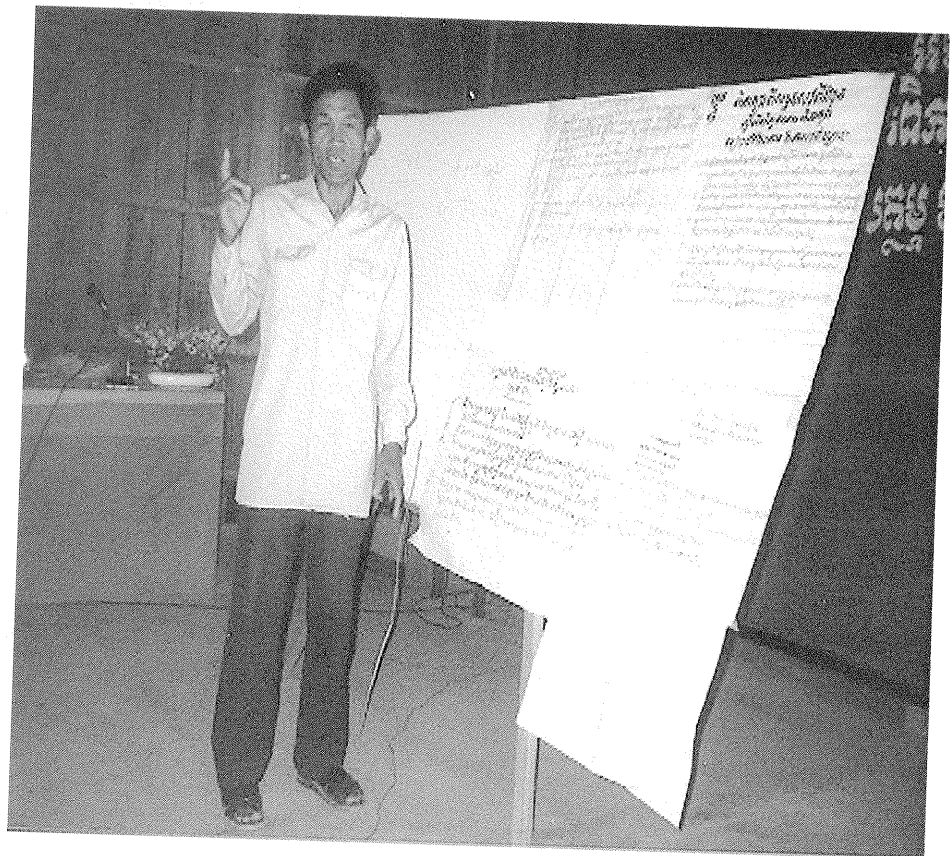
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<b>ACE</b>	▪ Awareness education & need or PFII-specific technical skills building, CBO-building and the people's own EPICPERM.
<b>CBO</b>	▪ Community Based Organization.
<b>COL</b>	▪ Cost of Living.
<b>EPIC- PERM</b>	▪ Earlier Primary In-Community Prompt Emancipating Response & Movement.
<b>HH</b>	▪ Household.
<b>IMAS- SSERDNA</b>	▪ Integral Management System for Synchronized Stakeholder, Results Driven & Naturally Advancing (food security growth strategies).
<b>InDEF</b>	▪ In-Deficit.
<b>LAMP</b>	▪ Limited Area, Maximum Production.
<b>MISI</b>	▪ Matching Institutional Support Intervention.
<b>OOD</b>	▪ Out-of-Deficit.
<b>PFII</b>	▪ Poverty & Food Insecurity Incidence.
<b>RICES</b>	▪ Rural Improvement & Community Enterprise Support.



### Why benchmark?

- To be aware and to educate about specific questions “... why the life of the poor and the hungry continue to be that of having to find food and where everyday?”
- ... build working strength upon those questions ... found its eradication in ways that are integrated and sustainable.
- ... each time increasingly opt for a yielding stand on the side of the poor ... empower their own earlier primary response to their own questions.

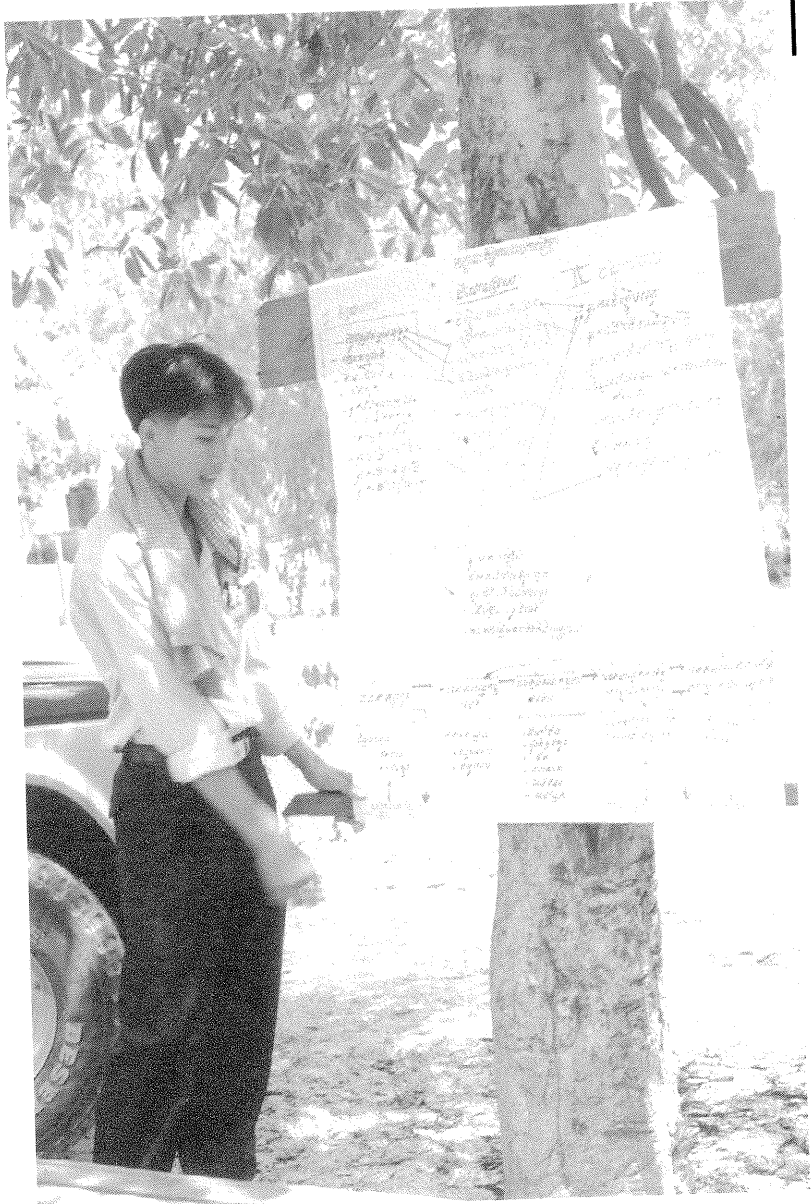


*“ ... so that from hunger and poverty  
we, too, may be free.”*

THE CHRONIC WEB of POVERTY & FOOD INSECURITY ISSUES that SPAWN the VICIOUS CYCLE of PERMANENT DEFICITS in the COST of LIVING CAPACITIES of the HOUSEHOLD:

*"... poverty and food insecurity incidences interact ... our response and movement should be as web-like."*

1. Poor & limited land cultivation,
2. Food deficit year round,
3. Perennial low income,
4. Insufficient or inappropriate farming tools,
5. No permanent fruit nor soil or environment enhancing trees,
6. Very few or no secondary crops,
7. Limited or no integrated animal husbandry,
8. No poultry or fowl raising,
9. Mono-Cropping (rice only),
10. No other perennial crops,
11. No draft animals,
12. No poultry or duck raising or other fowl raising,
13. Usurious and perennial paddy rice seeds plus cash indebtedness,
14. High illiteracy rate plus school-age children cannot attend school,
15. High frequency of diseases,
16. Low yield or farm income due to poor soil conditions plus prolonged drought or other forms of harsh weather patterns,
17. Limited or inappropriate farming skills &
18. No mix, relay, or "multi-terraced" farm crop cultivation,
19. Destruction of natural protein source due to chemical farming input,
20. Destructive fishing,
21. Insufficient irrigation & kitchen water systems,
22. Importation of primary farming plus other economic input or consumer commodities,
23. Usurious, up to 240% annual interest lending rates,
24. Absence of trained agricultural or other basic forms of insitu technical staff services,
25. Temporary housing or shelters,
26. Limited or no off-farm source of income,
27. Poor & unfair markets,
28. Excessive transport systems &
29. Middle traders.



## CAMBODIA PROGRAMME

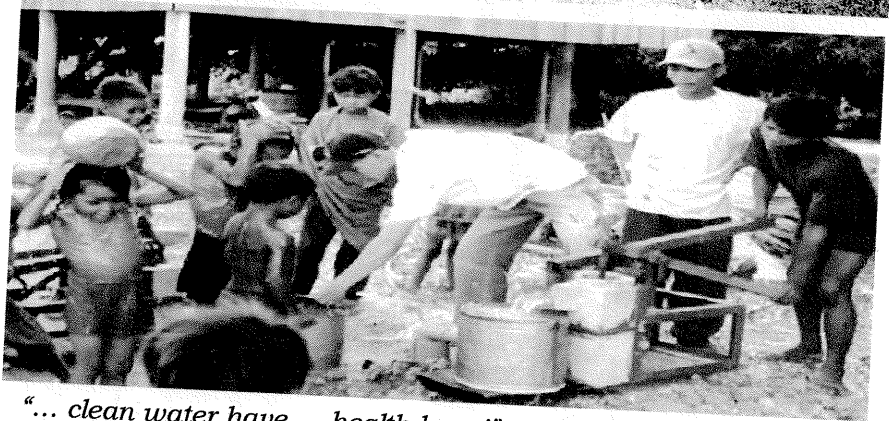
### THE MATCHING INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT INTERVENTION.

It consists of a permanent three-fold enabling MISI-ACE cycle. One, Awareness education & need or PFII-specific technical skills capacity building. Two, Community based organization (CBO) building. Three, Institutional Support Intervention to the people's own earlier ACEs.

The MISI-ACE cycle cuts across all 3 OnFarm clusters of aid towards the people's own ACEs, namely, as follows,

1. LAMP or the "limited area, maximum production system" of as diverse and as frequent, plus environment enhancing, as possible farm production year round.
  - a. Planting of a variety of year round permanent fruit and soil improving trees, respectively.
  - b. Intensified & as diverse as possible secondary cropping year round.
  - c. Integrated animal husbandry.
  - d. Accompanying village-based farming tools making. (Blacksmith shops & iron artisanship).
2. WATER wells, pumps, canals, dikes improvement for irrigation & kitchen water.
3. RICES or the rural improvement and community enterprise support program.
  - a. Rice seeds credit & savings.
  - b. Poultry raising.
  - c. Pig raising.
  - d. Basket and loom weaving.
  - e. Cow banking (for income, draft animals and organic fertilizer).
  - f. Multipurpose micro-fund savings & loan program.
  - g. Other need-specific food and income security activities.

*"... as diverse and as frequent as possible crops at home and on the farm yards year round."*



*"... clean water have ... health have!"*



*... cow credit banks for draft animals.... breeding, too, for more cows.*

## LOGICAL PROGRAM<sup>1</sup> INPUT & OUTPUT FRAMEWORK.<sup>2</sup>

The Permanent ACE Cycle of Strategies that goes with every INPUT preceding & next also accompanies each & every OUTPUT: Awareness education and PFII-SPECIFIC skills capacity building; CBO building. (Harmonized ISI towards) the people's own EPIC-PERM.

Institutional Support Intervention (external INPUT) in aid of the People's own EPIC-PERM:

1. LAMP farming system (permanent fruit plus environment and soil fertility enhancing tree-seedlings, secondary crop seeds and seedlings, integrated animal husbandry stocks, accompanying farming tools making gears).
2. Water system wells or pumps for kitchen and irrigation use.
3. Various rural in-community entrenchment support (RICES) strategies, i.e., rural credit & savings schemes, environment-friendly fertilizer-making, fair marketing & transport, village-based development agriculturists & other technicians, etc. (PLUS other Civil Society & Government strategic policy stand and tasks, respectively, on the side or at the synchronized empowerment of the people's own EPIC-PERM).

### BASELINE BENCHMARKS: Towards a Sustained People's Response.

2. A yearly demographic profile of the household along with their yearly tandem Cost of Living that compare with their basic food and income capacities during next five years.
2. Current poverty & food insecurity incidents that spawn perennial COL deficits.
3. Yearly Spread & Intensity of deficits in Capacities over COL.
4. Yearly analysis of during next 5 years of the people's own EPIC-PERM.
5. Analysis of the necessary increases in capacities to overcome deficits and create surplus.
6. Compliant Civil Society & Government aid (material & policy) interventions.
7. Synchronized empowerment strategy between stakeholder government, civil society NGO & the population.

PERMANENT STARTING & TOUCHDOWN POINT.

## BENCHMARK InCOMMUNITY RESPONSES & MOVEMENTS (In Its Permanent Sequence & Cycle of Founding ACE Progressions)

- Sustained formation of EPIC-PERM Working Groups:  
The enabling leadership & constituency of the people's own CBO.
- Constituency or Communities of LAMP farming system (diversified & environment enhancing food & income cultivation patterns year round.
  - Constituency or Communities of healthy & adequate Water systems.
  - Constituency or Communities of EPIC-PERM specific RICES credit & other rearward & forward safety fallbacks.
  - Constituency or Communities of preventive & food security-derived health & nutrition system.

→ Full productive cultivation of entire 0.6 hectare of farm land per household; OnFarm diversification & increase of permanent fruit, environment-friendly, soil improving & other useful trees; Insitu increase & diversification of secondary relay, mix, & other crops for food & income; Integrated OnFarm animal husbandry, poultry & fowl & small livestock raising; Progressive insitu application of cow manure & other organic soil fertilization; Accompanying blacksmith workshops for farming tools & implements making; Integrated cultivation & prompt use of natural Vit-A, Vit-C, Iron, protein & other healthful & nutritious sources of food; Organizational working committees & other village civil society formations.

- Multipurpose (production, food, health) savings & credit program; Rice seeds savings & credit; Cow banking; Savings increasing capital buildup; Capacity or skills-specific women-organized off-farm enterprises & Organizational enterprise-specific formations.
- Water wells & pumps Insitu. Improved Irrigation dikes, canals, supply & people-based maintenance & specific Organizational formation.
- Permanent use of well-maintained latrines, widespread practice of proper waste disposal & cleanliness of dwelling environment, plus organizational formation.

... earlier INDICATOR-ROOTS to as OnFARM & as Household bound the logical program EFFECT & IMPACT next ...

1 As distinguished from one, its eventual EFFECT & IMPACT phase and, two, from its accompanying Management Strategy.  
2 By LOT S. MIRANDA, HEKS Food Security Program & Management Strategies, Cambodia, 1998

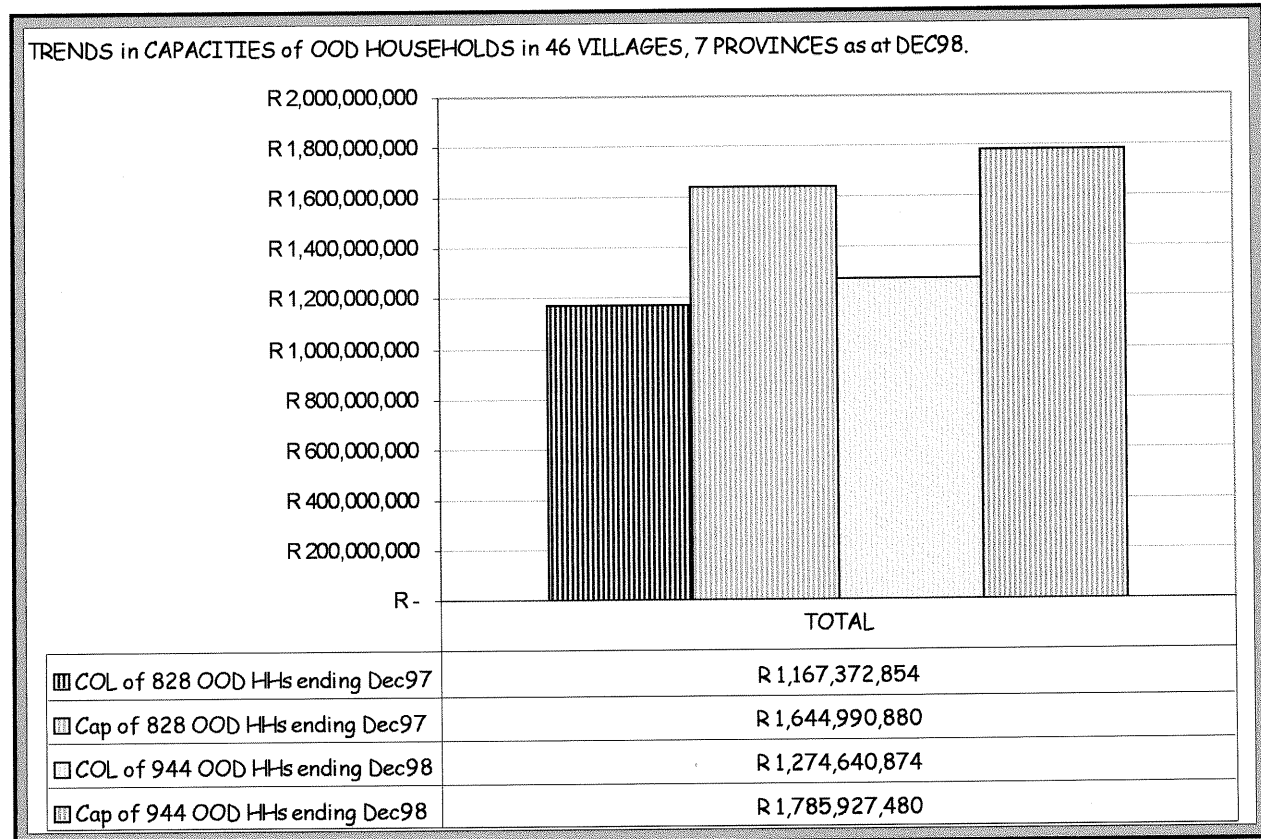
## **The OUT-OF-DEFICIT HOUSEHOLDS.**

in 46 villages, 7 PROVINCES,  
benchmark Dec97,  
ending Dec98.  
(The Progress in Their Capacities).



*... weaving to overcome indebtedness.*

SUMMARY of the progress in the capacities of Out-of-Deficit households in 46 villages, 7 PROVINCES, benchmark Dec97, ending Dec98.



### Notes.

1. Total target stakeholder-villages in 8 Provinces is 82, affecting its up to 8,429 InDeficit households or about 40,500 population. This is 90.86% of the 9,277 total resident-households.
2. Only 54 villages were actively accompanied during the year ending Dec98. There, out of 5,027 InDeficit HHs as at Jan97, a total of 944 HHs registered continuing post-deficit capacities in the supply of goods and employment opportunities as at period ending Dec98.
3. Overall increase in capacities of OOD households as at Dec98, benchmark Dec97, was 7.05%.
4. Per household increase in capacities was 6.10% as at Dec98 against those in Dec97.
5. Among the 4199 InDeficit HHs,<sup>1</sup> a 3.51% decrease in deficits was generated during period Dec97 to Dec98. Plus 6.10% increase in capacities of the OOD HHs, as above, a net total of 9.61% was registered in the decrease of deficits (specific poverty and hunger conditions) across the stakeholder-villages during period benchmark Dec97, ending Dec98.

<sup>1</sup> Please see "Intensity of Continuing Deficit Among 4199 Households in 54 Villages, 7 Provinces, During the Year Ending Dec98."

## **In-DEFICIT HOUSEHOLDS.**

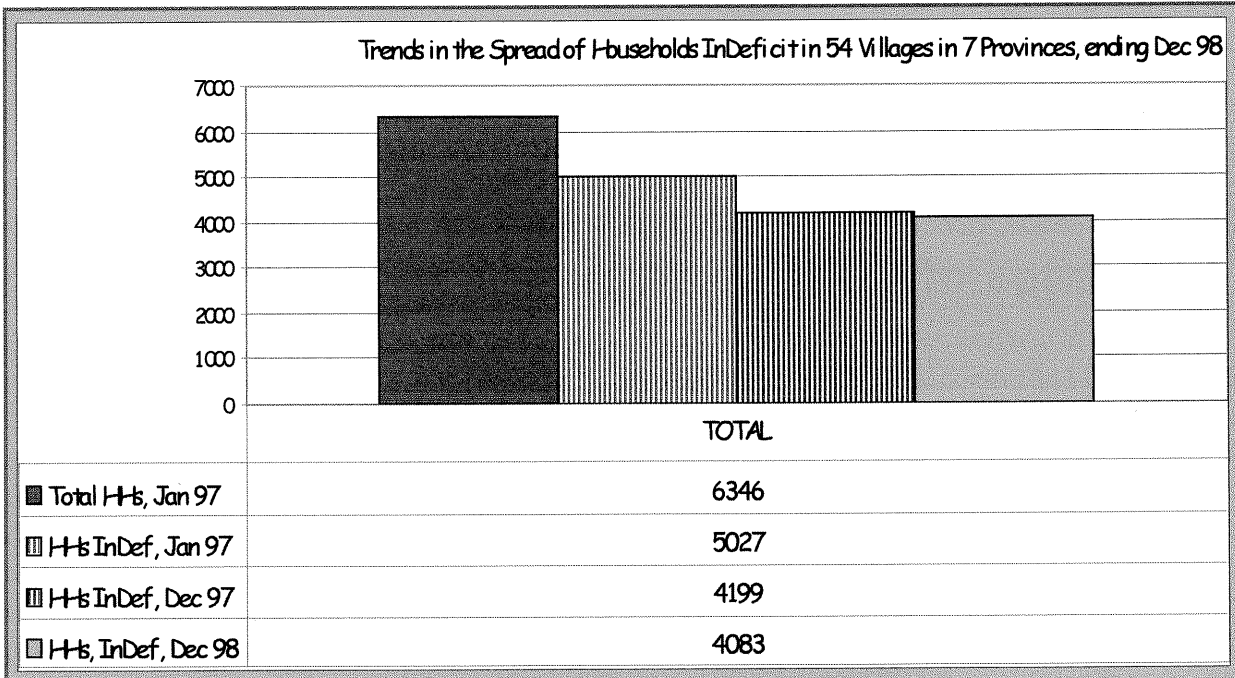
Their SPREAD in 54 villages,  
of the 7 PROVINCES, during two years,  
ending Dec98.

**(The encouraging trends in the  
decrease of their number).**



*"... more education, more skills ... in that fruit trees  
are life ... planted in proper way it means more fruit ...  
more life."*

SUMMARY of the Spread of InDeficit Households during 2 years ending December 1998 affecting 4083 Households in 54 chronically food deficit and low income villages, in 7 PROVINCES.



### Notes.

1. Households InDeficit as at Jan97 is 79.22% of total households in the 54 stakeholder-villages.
2. HHs InDeficit as at Dec98 is 19.24% less since Jan 97.
3. Average yearly rate of decrease in the spread of HHs InDeficit during two years ending Dec 98 is 9.62%.

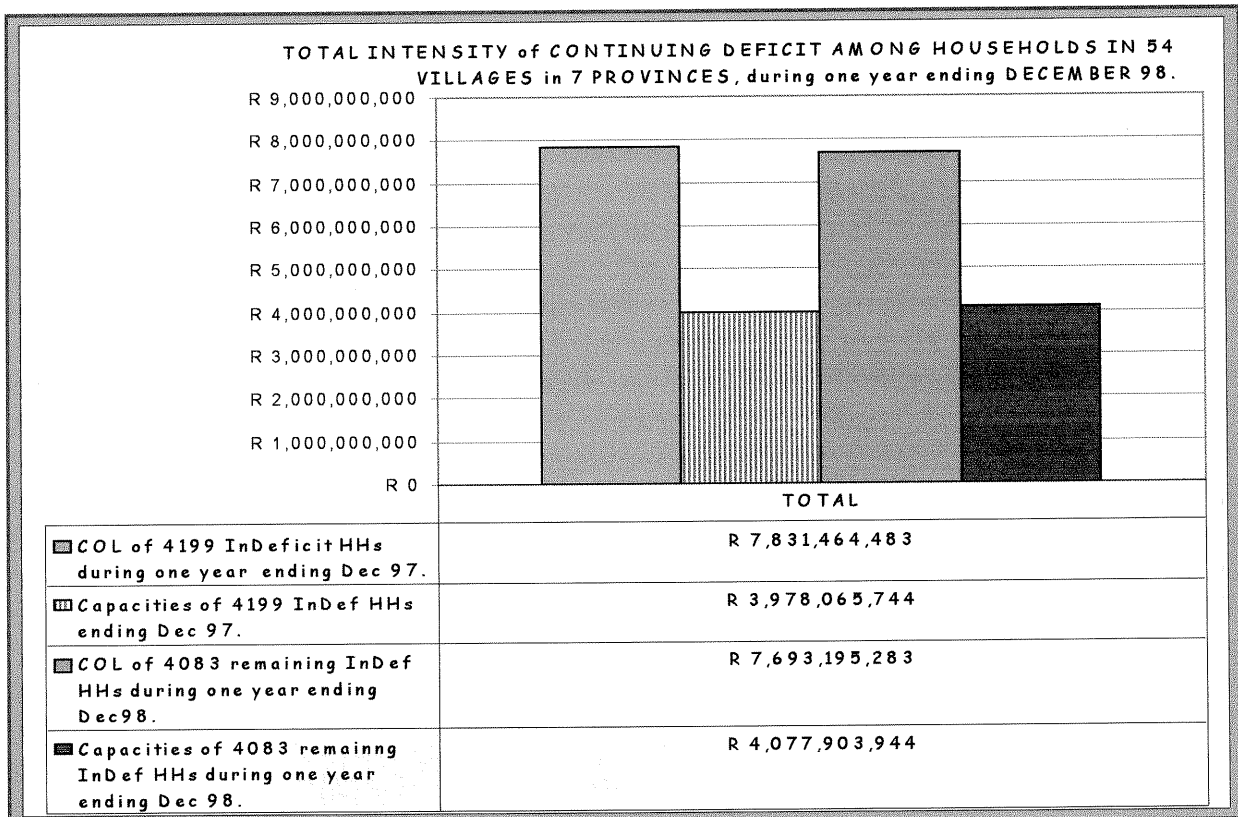
## **In DEFICIT HOUSEHOLDS.**

The Continuing INTENSITY of  
Deficits Among 4199 Households  
in 54 villages, of the 7 PROVINCES,  
during the year ending Dec98.



" ... my children ... they, too, should be in school."

SUMMARY of the Intensity of Continuing Deficit Among 4199 Households in 54 villages, in 7 Provinces, during the year ending December 1998.



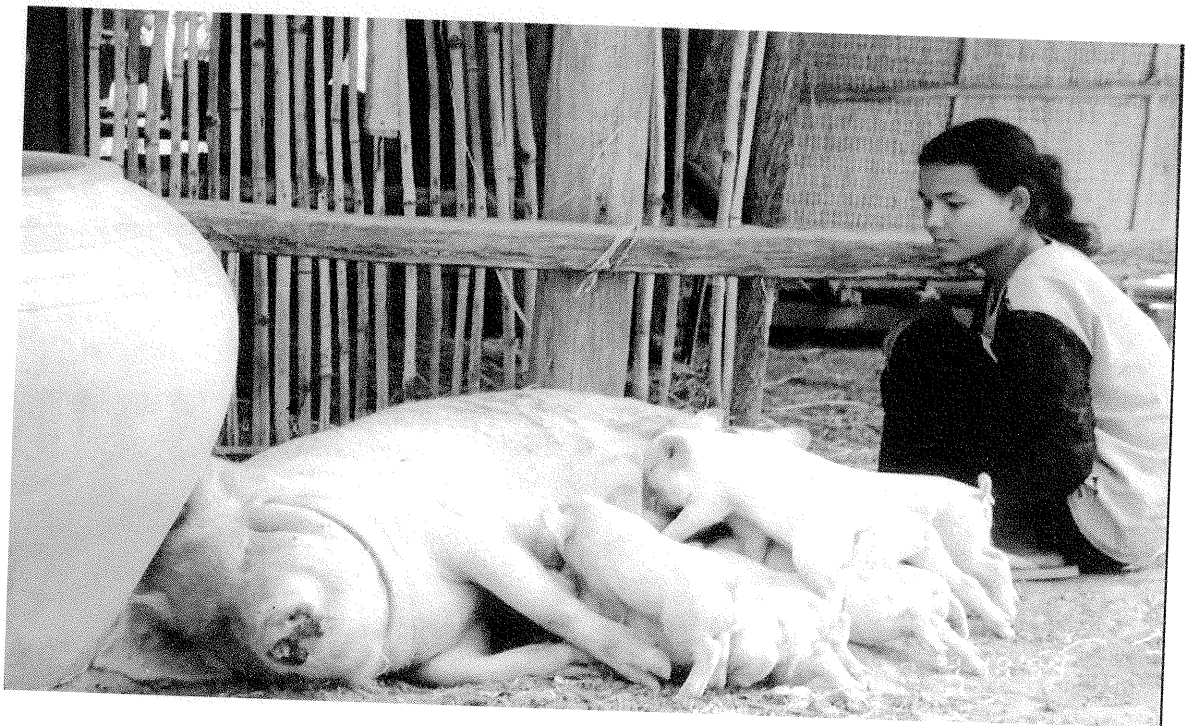
### Notes.

1. Cost of Living of 4199 InDeficit Households as at December 97 was 49.20% more than their net capacities during the same period.
2. Cost of Living of 4083 households that remained InDeficit as at December 98 was 46.99% more than their net capacities during the period.
3. Overall decrease of 6.18% in the deficits of households that remained InDeficit, benchmark Dec 98 against Dec 97.
4. Per household decrease in deficits is at 3.51% during period from Dec 97 to Dec 98. Plus 6.10%<sup>1</sup> in the per capita increase in capacities of OOD households as at Dec 98 against those in Dec 97, a net total of 9.61% decrease in deficits (eradication of specific hunger and poverty conditions) was built across the 54 stakeholder-villages during period benchmark Dec 97, ending Dec 98.
5. The SPREAD or NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS InDeficit decreased by 2.76%. (4199 HHs, benchmark Dec 97; 4083 HHs, benchmark Dec 98).

<sup>1</sup> Please see "Progress in the capacities of OOD HHs in 46 villages, 7 provinces, benchmark Dec 97, ending Dec 98."

Progress of the Swine Raising Credit Program ending Dec98, benchmark the dates started as indicated, respectively.

Province	Number of Villages	Household Membership	Date Started	Original Assistance In Riels @ 3800 per USDollar	Service Fee Earned	Current Total Capital	Rate of Increase in Capital ending Dec98
1. Russey Keo	9	381	Jun-Oct98	R21,595,362	R3,756,110	R25,351,472	17.39%
2. Kampot	4	183	Dec97	R11,679,490	R3,483,156	R15,162,646	29.82%
3. Kg Chhnang	2	111	June98	R5,240,504	R273,600	R5,514,104	5.22%
4. Kg Cham	1	80	June98	R4,532,336	R343,938	R4,876,274	7.58%
5. Takeo	15	903	Nov97 - Apr98	R63,288,088	R14,292,864	R77,580,952	22.58%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1658</b>		<b>R106,335,780</b>	<b>R22,149,668</b>	<b>R128,485,448</b>	<b>20.83%</b>



... piayy bank.

CAMBODIA PROGRAMME, DEC98.

Progress of the rice seed credit bank program, ending Dec98.

Province	Household Membership	Number of Villages	Date Started	Original Assistance in Kilograms	Service Fee Earned, in kilograms as at Dec98	Total Capital Resources, in kilograms, Dec98	Rate of Increase in Capital as at Dec98
1. Svay Rieng	196	4	1997 & 1998	21,080	5,965	27,045 kgs	28.30%
2. Kg Speu	691	13	1998	43,540	8,681	52,221 kgs	19.94
3. Kampot	294	4	1998	16,527	3,309	19,836 kgs	20.02
4. Kg Cham	276	4	1998	17,159	1,714	18,873kgs	9.99%
5. Takeo	984	16	1993, 1994 & 1996	73,396	33,585	106,981kgs	45.76%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2441</b>	<b>41</b>		<b>171,702</b>	<b>53,524</b>	<b>224,956kgs</b>	<b>31.02%</b>

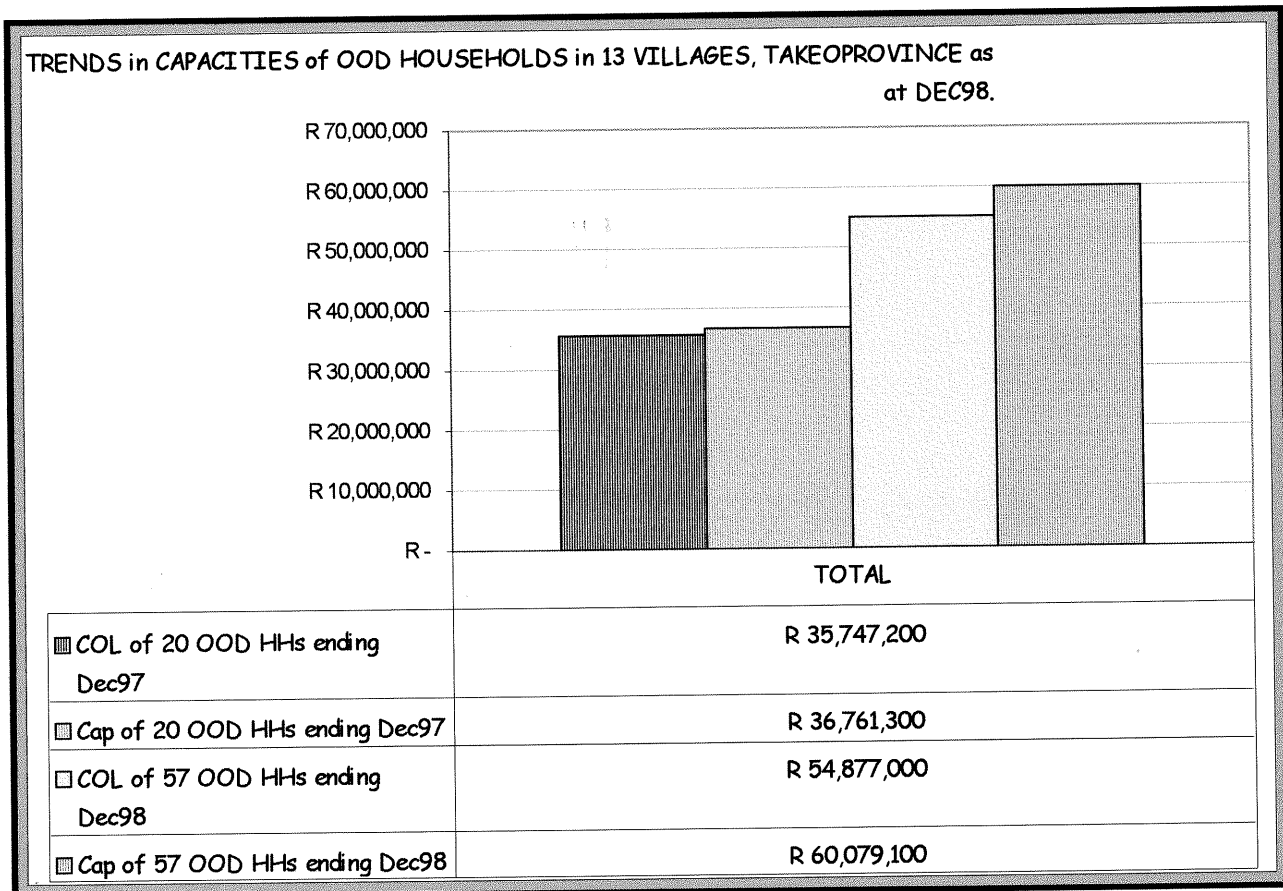


*“... our seed banks ... our guarantee of seeds supply during planting time.”*

**Annex.****The Takeo Province's**

1. Progress in the capacities of OOD HHs ending Dec98, benchmark Jan97.
2. Spread of HHs that remain InDeficit.
3. Continuing Intensity of Deficit of HHs that remain InDeficit.

Progress in the capacities of Out-of-Deficit households in 13 villages, TAKEO PROVINCE, benchmark Jan97, ending Dec98.



Notes.

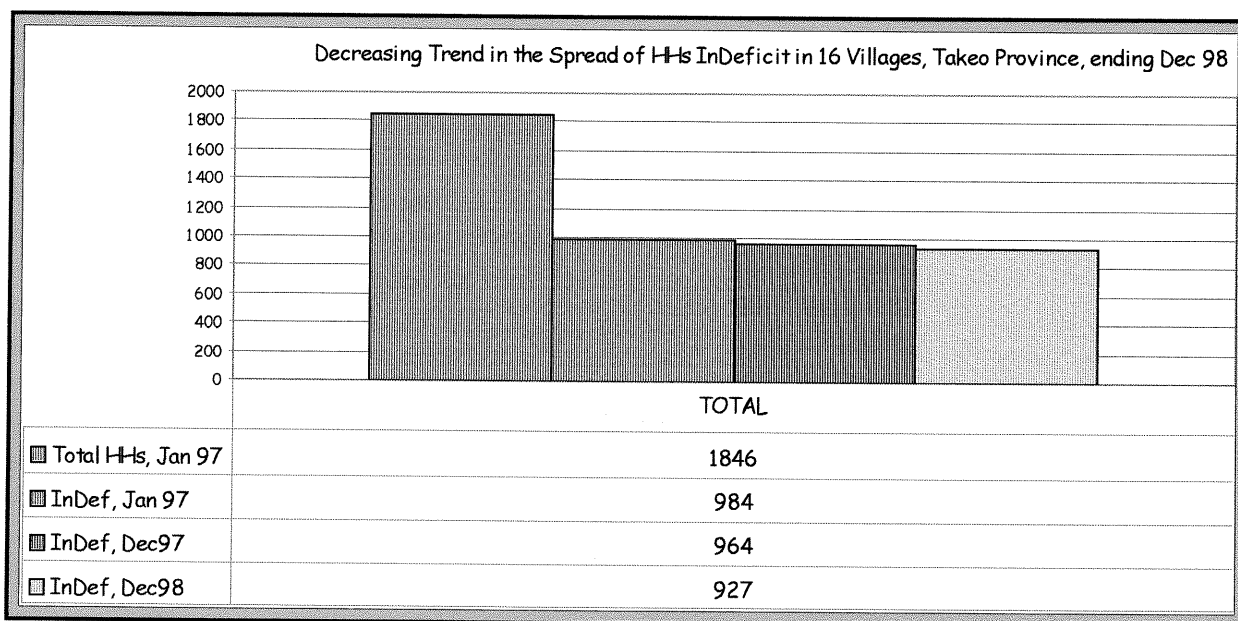
1. Total program stakeholder-villages in TAKEO Province is 16. Out of 984 InDeficit Households as at Jan97, a total of 57 Households registered continuing post-deficit capacities in the supply of goods and employment as at period ending Dec 98.

2. The 16 villages each have a working community based organization that had, as primary formations, federated into a secondary province-wide organization, namely, the Association of Farmers for Peace and Progress (SSDK) in Takeo. SSDKT is admitting 20 more such primary CBOs at its next general assembly meeting during year 1999.

3. Overall increase in capacities of OOD households as at Dec98, benchmark Dec97, was 348.80%.

4. Per household increase in capacities was 57.47% as at Dec98 against those in Dec97.

Spread & Trends in the decrease of number of InDeficit Households at 984, benchmark Jan97, to 927, benchmark Dec 98, in 16 villages, TAKEO PROVINCE.

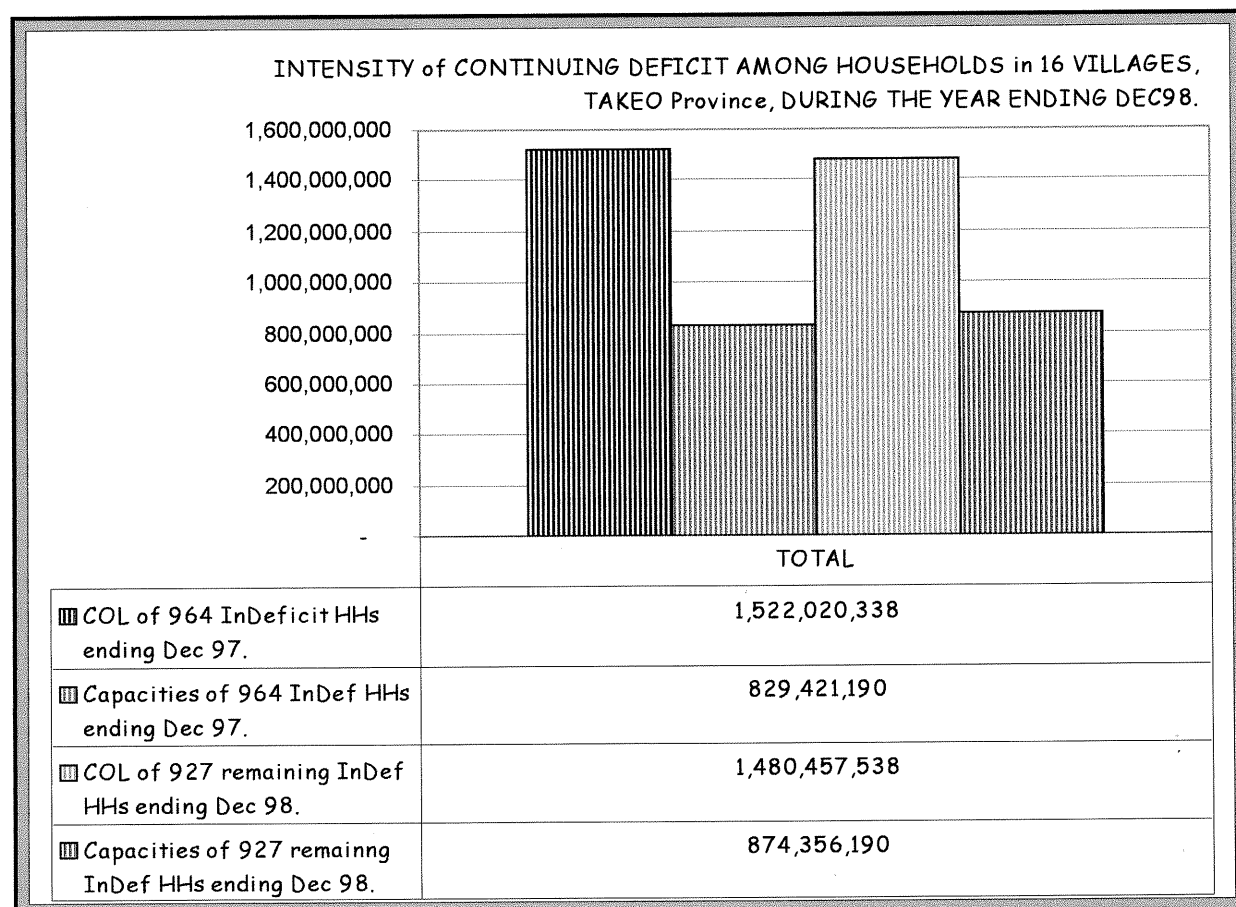


Notes.

1. HHs InDeficit as at Jan97 is 53.30% of total households in the 16 stakeholder-villages.<sup>1</sup>
2. HHs InDeficit as at Dec 97 is 2.03% less since Jan 97.
3. HHs InDeficit as at Dec 98 is 3.84% less since Dec 97. Several registered increases in HH capacities during the year were insufficient to go beyond the deficit level.
4. Average yearly rate of decrease in the spread of HHs InDeficit during two years ending Dec 98 is 2.93%.

<sup>1</sup> The priority stakeholder-household are the same most depressed households that received emergency rice seeds credit assistance during the floods and droughts of years 1993 and 1994. There are more households in the village that are below the poverty threshold. But we were capable of only so much emergency seeds supply at the time.

Intensity of Continuing Deficit Among 964 Households in 16 villages, TAKEO Province, during the year ending December 1998.



Notes.

1. Cost of Living of 964 InDeficit Households as at December 97 was 45.50% more than their net capacities during the same period.
2. Cost of Living of 927 households that remained InDeficit as at December 98 was 40.94% more than their net capacities during the same period.
3. Overall decrease of 12.49% in the deficits of households that remained InDeficit, benchmark Dec98 against Dec97.
4. Per household decrease in deficits is at 8.99% during period from Dec97 to Dec98.
5. The "graduation" of 37 households (3.83% of the 964 households that remained InDeficit ending Dec97) into the Out-of-Deficit bracket during the year ending Dec98 apparently derived from the relative advance of the CBO formation in the Takeo villages.

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## **HEKS POLICY UNDERSTANDING OF FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM AND MANAGEMENT.**

*HEKS commits itself to Food Security in the World. In that, it will engage in hunger & poverty eradication programs. It is establishing a reference program & management strategy for the purposes as built-in conditions for its project engagements.*

*Program and management instruments, respectively, are being put to use and progressively improved towards both indicating and which measures the progress in the reduction of poverty & hunger at minimum of yearly 5% rate.*

*Our aid engagements which shall be in ways of prompt responses on-farm for rural in-community entrenchments (PRO-RICE) are, therefore, going to be bound with program strategy-instruments that include,*

- 1. Benchmark poverty & food insecurity incidences that make deficits in the basic cost of living capacities a permanent profile of the poor & hungry.*
- 2. Benchmark spread and intensity of the deficits among the household-stakeholders.*
- 3. Benchmark projection of the yearly increase in the spread and intensity per the rising cost of living in tandem, specifically, with the yearly rise in both the demographic and basic socio-economic circumstances of the household. (during next 5 years).*
- 4. Benchmark projection of the necessary yearly capacities of the household and their chronic deficits per their cost of living. (during next 5 years).*
- 5. Benchmark yearly and necessary increase in household capacities to overcome the deficits and, once necessary, the accompanying benchmark spread & intensity of outside (our and other such) intervention.*

*Our engagements shall be equally guided by an "integral management system of harmonized or synchronized stakeholder empowerment, results driven and naturally advancing" strategy in PRO-RICE food security growth and beyond. Specifically, pertinent instruments are put to use, involving, planning, staffing, budgeting and controlling, monitoring and evaluation. Trends in field operations and primary activities on-farm are integral to trends in overall financial disbursement in favor of the primary cost, more than the fixed cost, proportion of the budget.*

*Food Security is seen as a fourfold function of, one, availability, two, accessibility, three, reliability and, four, quality food supply and systems for health and nutrition.*





**HEKS កម្ពុជា**

**CAMBODIA PROGRAMME, DEC98.**

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**BENCHMARKS .**