

Sustainable Irrigation:

Lessons Learned by the Cambodia Agricultural Value Chain Program (CAVAC)

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What is CAVAC?

- An Australian-funded program focusing on Agriculture and Water
- Two phases: 2010-2015, 2016-2021
- Agriculture: increase in yield and irrigated areas
- Constructed around 30 irrigation system (15 pumping stations)
- Supported their Operation and Maintenance (O&M)



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What is Sustainable Irrigation?

- Long-term ability of beneficiaries to operate and maintain their scheme
- Scheme is profitable
- Effective management of the scheme: effective and efficient operation and maintenance (O&M)
- Increased level of income
- Little or no external intervention needed



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Conditions for Successful Irrigation

- Building Trust
- Functioning Scheme
- Good team
- Willingness to pay
- Farmers' Interest
- Time & Flexibility



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Operation & Maintenance



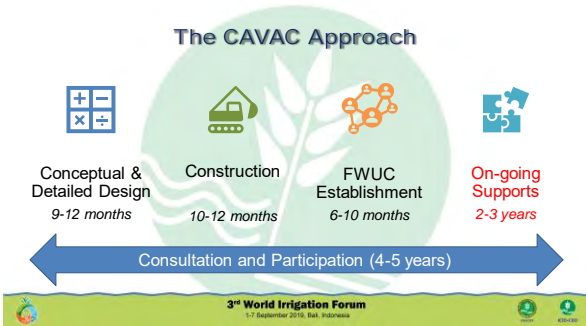
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What Makes a Well Managed Scheme?

- Easily Managed by Farmer Water Users Community (FWUC)
- High Rate of Irrigation Service Fee (ISF) Collection
- Scheme & Pump Maintained by FWUC
- Considering Private Sector (at some point)



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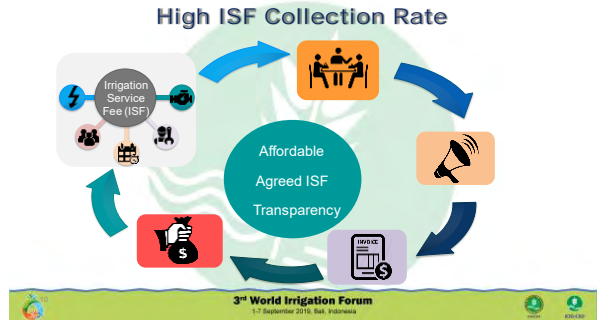
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Potential Risks and Constrains

-  Political Interference
-  Decrease in Paddy Price
-  Increase in Production Cost
-  Time Required:
Scheme & Farmers Behaviour
-  Lack of Skills

