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Authors: Murari Suvedi, Ramjee Ghimire, Ty Channa

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Running head: CORE COMPETENCY OF AGRICULUTRAL DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS IN CAMBODIA 1 Examination of core competencies of agricultural development professionals in Cambodia

Murari Suvedi^a, Ramjee Ghimire^a, Ty Channa^b

^a Department of Community Sustainability, Michigan State University, 480 Wilson Rd., East

Lansing, MI 48824; email: suvedi@msu.edu

^a Department of Community Sustainability, Michigan State University, 480 Wilson Rd., East

Lansing, MI 48824; email: ghimirer@msu.edu

^b Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, General Department of Agriculture, Cambodia

Email: tychanna2013@gmail.com

Correspondence email: suvedi@msu.edu

Highlights

- Agricultural development professionals in Cambodia felt all the extension process skills and/or competencies are important or very important to their work.
- They did not feel as competent as they should be in these competencies to effectively serve their clients.
- The highest gap in competency was in educational and informational technology and program evaluation.
- Participants indicated preservice, in-service, basic induction, and non-formal trainings as appropriate ways to acquire extension core competencies for them.

Abstract

This cross-sectional study examined perceived level of importance, perceived level of competency in extension core competencies, and whether and how perceptions of competency vary by respondents' demographics; ascertained gaps in competency, if any; and identified ways for agricultural development professionals in Cambodia to acquire core competencies. Data were collected using a group-administered survey among 39 agricultural development professionals participating in a national workshop in December 2015. The survey consisted of 48 competencies representing eight core competencies, and each competency had level of

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