

## **CEDAC HOSTED EXCHANGE VISIT OF SLM PROJECT TEAM**

On 23 May 2010, the Integrated Commercial Farm for Small Farmers project in Takeo's Samrong district hosted a retreat for the project team of the Building Capacity and Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in Cambodia project. Among the 23 people (5 women) attending the retreat were H.E Kong Sraron, consultant to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF), UNDP representatives Mr. Lay Khim and Mrs. Ngin Navarak, and other SLM department directors and technical staff. CEDAC staff member Mr. Him Noeun accompanied them on a visit to the farms of Mr. Keb Chorn and Mr. Ouk Phoeun, who are project beneficiaries.

The objectives of the retreat were to see the achievements of the project related to soil improvement techniques and to learn about the progress and approaches that farmer are applying to achieve more sustainable land management.

During the field visit, the delegates visited the farms and listened as farmers shared their experiences and challenges in farm development, especially how to improve soil fertility. Mr. Him Noeun shared with participants how the project supports the target group in designing farm land use and soil fertility improvement.

After the visits, the participants discussed the project's progress and achievements including the farm owners' soil fertility improvement methods, income generation of farm families from applying integrated farming and how the project works with the farm owners. One of the UNDP representatives suggested the project increase the budget allocation for demonstration, clustering best practice of the farmers, and studying which approaches are most effective in promoting integrated farm development among local farmers.

