

Campaign on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Svay Rieng Province

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CEDAC is implementing a development project titled "**Development of food production, farming income, nutrition and resilience in Cambodia**". The duration of the project is from January 2010 to June 2011, and covers 75 villages in 5 districts of Prey Veng and Svay Rieng provinces. The specific objectives of the project are to:

- Increase productivity and sustainability of family-scale agriculture through development of farmers' skills, access to irrigation, development of input supplies and other services to farmers;
- Improve the availability and nutritional quality of food on the market, including the availability of adequate food for young children.

The System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is one of the main agricultural innovations introduced by CEDAC.



In July 2010, the project team in Chantrea district, Svay Rieng province conducted a **SRI Campaign** with 270 participants (137 women). Those participants included farmers, village chiefs, commune councilors, and local stakeholders from 9 villages across 4 communes in Chantrea district. As the rainy season was beginning in Cambodia, the campaign conducted was to raise awareness among farmers about SRI so that they can understand and prepare for SRI cultivation. In addition, the campaign was helpful to exchange the knowledge and experiences on SRI practices among farmers and with local authorities (village chiefs and commune councilors) and other stakeholders. During the SRI Campaign, 613 SRI leaflets were distributed to 454 farmers, 187 of whom are members of village-based farmer associations.

As the result, the farmers have gained more understanding on SRI principles and techniques. Generally, the majority of farmers are interested in experimenting and applying SRI in this rainy season. CEDAC's project staff will provide individual follow-up advice on SRI and record the results of the SRI experiments with the cooperating farmers. It is expected the SRI report will be produced at the end of the rainy season.