

## Impact of Ecological Chicken Raising Shared on CTN's "Internet Talk" TV Show

September 6, 2010

On September 6, 2010, Mr. Him Noeun, a CEDAC staff member, appeared live on CTN's TV show "Internet Talk" to promote ecological chicken raising. He discussed why he sees ecological chicken raising as a suitable and sustainable activity that will enable farmers to generate a greater family income as well as serve as food for family consumption. He described how CEDAC has assisted and given support to many rural farmers in chicken raising. Some of the assistance provided includes facilitation of farmer-led experiments, preparation of case study and best practice documentation, presentation and discussion of results found, facilitation of farmer exchange visits, providing trainings and workshops to farmers on ecological chicken raising techniques, and promoting farmer to farmer extension. Moreover, to reduce production costs, Mr. Him Noeun recommended that the farmers raise earthworms to feed to the chickens because 69% of earthworms' body weight is protein so they are a major form of nutrition for chickens. As a result of ecological chicken raising techniques promoted by CEDAC, farmers have also been able to use the local resources they have around them in a more sustainable manner so that they can become more self reliant.

Mr. Him Noeun recommended that to succeed in chicken raising, farmers should allocate part of their farming land to growing vegetables, which will serve as a source of chicken feed (as is taught in Intensification of Ecological Chicken Raising). This means that, if possible, farmers should convert their land to integrated farming. Additionally, farmers should cooperate with one another to set up chicken producer groups so that they may get higher prices from selling their chickens (a win-win strategy).

It is also important to note that, on average, the farmers who have cooperated with CEDAC so far have earned extra income from ecological chicken raising of between \$1,500 and \$1,800 US dollars per year.

