

## **SRI Field Visit for Farmers from The Philippines**

From 8-18 July 2009, CEDAC Institute for Local Development (CILD) hosted a field visit for three farmers from Philippines. The objective of the mission was to learn about System of Rice Intensification (SRI) both technical and practical knowledge and the specific dissemination approach adopted by CEDAC's Cambodian farmers.

During the visit, the SRI principles and practices, the 12 steps of SRI techniques and the comparison between the conventional practices and SRI practices were presented. CEDAC's activity and strategy in promoting and disseminating SRI in the country were also presented. After the orientation meeting with a number of CEDAC staff members in Phnom Penh, the three-farmers from Philippines traveled to stay with SRI Farmer Promoters, Mr. Prak Chres and Mr. Larch Khly for seven days in Tramkak district, Takeo province. There, they were able to learn many new things related to SRI. They practiced SRI farming with Cambodian farmers including seed selection, land leveling, transplanting and weeding. They also visited a rice wine producing place, and observed fish raising and the multi-purposes farming of Mr. Ros Mao.

As a result, they have gained a lot of knowledge around SRI practices from Cambodian Farmers They includes: There are more Cambodian farmers believing in SRI and they have started practicing SRI methodologies. Cambodian farmers can farm on both flooded and dry land with a poor irrigation system, good weeding and there is a better system of pest management/control. They committed during the reflection meeting that wit all of their learned knowledge and experiences mentioned above, they would apply them into their own practices and share with other farmers in The Philippines so that Pilipinos could learn from Cambodian farmers. However, the Pilipino farmers identified some week points of Cambodian farmers in practicing SRI including the transplanting of old age seedlings and poor water management.