

Regional Meeting on Community Education for Pesticide Risk Reduction 15-17 November 2010,

Mr. Keam Makarady, Environment and Health Program Director of CEDAC, participated in the Regional Meeting on Community Education for Pesticide Risk Reduction in Hanoi, Vietnam. The meeting was organized by the FAO Regional IPM Programme in cooperation with the Vietnam Plant Protection Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; and in collaboration with the Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific (PAN AP) and the Field Alliance. 42 participants from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, representing the governments, CSOs, resource persons and FAO staff participated in this regional meeting.

The overall objectives of the meeting were: (1) to share highlights of Community Education for Pesticide Risk Reduction work during the last 12 months by all Programme partners, with a special focus on collaborative pilot initiatives in Vietnam; (2) to strengthen regional networking on matters concerning IPM, Pesticide Risk Reduction, awareness raising, advocacy and farmer or community education among nationals, partner organization representatives and FAO staff; and, (3) to identify needs, opportunities and challenges for strengthening country and regional strategies for continued collaboration and sustainable impact of the Pesticide Risk Reduction Community Education initiatives, especially in pilot convergence areas.

All participants were divided into two groups to conduct a field visit to Community Education Programmes on Pesticide Risk Reduction and to discuss with various local stakeholders on policy development and marketing of the products in Thai Giang commune, Thai Thuy district, Thia Binh Province and in Hanoi/Hung Yen.

At the end of the meeting, all participants had worked in country-level discussions on Government and NGOs collaboration on Community Education for the Pesticide Risk Reduction.

