

### **CEDAC's new project with funding support from EED**

With funding support from EED, CEDAC is implementing the Enhancing the participation of farmer associations in local governance and development through capacity building and cooperation with local authorities (EFP) project in five districts of Kampong Speu and Takeo Provinces. The project seeks to contribute to the establishment of an empowered civil society in Cambodia, through an enhanced participation of village-based farmer associations (VFA) in democratic governance and local development. The specific objective of the project is to enable farmer associations, commune and district councils, in the target areas, to provide services more effectively, by means of a greater responsiveness to felt needs and a more influential participation in the formulation and implementation of local development policies and plans. The project will last for 36 months, starting in January, 2011.

At least 1,500 local key persons, 150 commune councilors, 300 village chiefs, 50 district councilors, 30 district government officers from specialized agencies and 100 other local stakeholders such as school directors, local health officials, pagoda committee members in 300 villages in Bati, Samroang and Trankak districts of Takeo province and Borseth and Korng Pisey districts of Kampong Speu province will benefit from the project. The final beneficiaries will be 30,000 families, among them the most vulnerable groups, such as women-headed households, people living with HIV/AIDS or disabilities and the poorest families.