

Leadership Training with Chief of Commune Council

Within the framework of the Local Administration and Reform project, CEDAC organized training on leadership with the commune council chief from 21-23 July 2009 at Picnic resort, Sihanouk province. There were 48 commune councilors from 48 communes of Kandal Steung district, Kandal province and Tramkak and Samroang district of Takeo province that attended this training. The objectives of the training workshop were to:

- Learn about the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi through a viewing of the Gandhi film and reflecting upon how to turn those experiences into practice in their respective communes
- Increase participants' understanding on the self-development concept
- Increase participants' knowledge on power and decision making

During the workshop, many topics, experiences and games on leadership, including the self-development approach, ideal decision making were presented and discussed.

In particular, the main topic on SAMACHAL which stands for Health, Friendship, Knowledge and Money was also discussed. Many questions were proposed for discussion related to SAMACHAL, which aimed at improving the situation of participants to a better SAMACHAL condition in the future.

As a result, the commune council members actively participated in the training and they will bring some experiences and knowledge to share with other commune council members and the village chiefs in their respective communes. They also impressed satisfaction with the training and suggested to have such an event again.

It is important to note, that with the support from USAID through Pact Cambodia, since February 2006, CEDAC have been implementing the project, entitled "Local Administration and Reform" in 49 communes of Kandal and Takeo provinces. The goal of the project was to promote sustainable engagement between citizens and commune councils.