

CEDAC Achieving Success Through the National Biodigester Programme (NBP)

Since April 2007, CEDAC has been a cooperative partner in the National Biodigester Programme (NBP) which promotes and disseminates information about domestic biodigesters to local farmers. The National Biodigester Programme (NBP) is a joint program between the Cambodia Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV). The current pilot phase runs from 2005 until December 2009 and targets provinces with a very good biodigester potential. If the results are satisfactory, the program can be extended to all provinces in a second phase. The overall objective of the first phase of the program is the dissemination of domestic biodigesters as an indigenous, sustainable energy source through the development of a commercial, market-oriented, biodigester sector in selected provinces of Cambodia.

In the beginning, the role of CEDAC was promoting and marketing within the five target provinces: Svay Rieng, Kampong Cham, Kandal, Kampong Speu and Takeo. As a result of those efforts, 320 biodigesters were built in the five provinces.

In November 2007, the National Biodigester Programme (NBP) was extended to include two more target provinces, Kampot and Kampong Chhnang. CEDAC was selected to manage the program in Kampot province. In October 2008, the National Biodigester Programme (NBP) extended the target provinces yet again and assigned CEDAC as the manager of two of the additional provinces, Prey Veng and Kandal.

As of July 2009, CEDAC has been instrumental in promoting the building of 794 biodigesters overall including 526 in Kampot province, 122 in Kandal province and 146 in Prey Veng province. The success of this program has been very encouraging and CEDAC hopes to continue its efforts to improve the livelihood of local farmers through new practices and opportunities.