

CSO Consultation Workshop on GAFSP Cambodia Project

On August 5, 2011, CSO Asia representative to the GAFSP Steering Committee through joint efforts with Asia Farmer Association (AFA), Farmer and Nature Net (FNN) and CEDAC, organized a consultation workshop on the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) Cambodia Project at the Phnom Penh Hotel, in Phnom Penh. Twenty participants including five women from CSO and farmers' organizations representatives were in attendance. The objective of the workshop was to inform the farmers' organizations and the NGOs about the decision of the GAFSP Steering Committee on the Cambodia proposal, from June 5th, 2011, and to get their feedback and plans on how to further engage in the GAFSP processes.

During the workshop, the CSO Asia representative to the GAFSP Steering Committee, Dr. Yang Saing Koma, presented the importance of farmers' organizations' role in further engagements with GAFSP Project. He said that farmers are crucial actors and a very important production force of the country. *The farmers' organizations not only receive the benefits from the project, but also get to actively engage in the project implementation process,* he added.

As a result, participants have reviewed and discussed the concept note and have come away with initial recommendations on how to further improve the proposal so as to give real benefits to the small farmers.

