

### **CEDAC Celebrate its 14th Anniversary Meeting**

On August 12, 2011, CEDAC organized its 14th Anniversary Meeting at the Cambodian Japan Cooperation Center (CJCC) in Phnom Penh. The meeting was attended by 179 participants, of whom 54 were women, and included CEDAC staff members, Community-based Field Assistants (CFAs), CEDAC SAHAKREAS (CSK) representatives, Farmers and Nature Net (FNN) representatives, and participating farmers.

To start off the meeting, CEDAC's history and major accomplishments during its 14 years (August 1997-August 2011) were presented and reflected upon. Other highlights from this 14th Anniversary Meeting included hearing the voices and testimonies of the communities, during which participating farmers shared their success stories related to both the improvements in their families' living conditions and the development of communities after having cooperated with CEDAC. Finally, the future direction of CEDAC and main programs to be focused on were discussed.

According to CEDAC's President, Dr. Yang Saing Koma, some of CEDAC's key accomplishments so far include the work on System of Rice Intensification (SRI), Saving Groups, Organic Products Marketing and Bio-digester Promotion. Dr. Koma added that in the future, CEDAC will focus more on the sustainability of its field development programs by assisting the Farmer and Nature Net to work independently as well as to become financially independent by earning local funds to support its own development projects.

As a result, all participants gained more knowledge and understanding about CEDAC's works as well as its major achievements during that last 14 years. Moreover, all CEDAC staff members and farmers committed to cooperating with the organization to achieve our desired goals for the future.

