

First Mekong Forum on Water, Food and Energy

Phnom Penh: Mr. Khim Sophanna, CEDAC's Senior Program Advisor, participated in the First Mekong Forum on Water, Food and Energy at the Cambodiana hotel, from 7-9 December, 2011. The Forum was co-hosted by the Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF), the Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology (MOWRAM) and the Mekong Program on Water, Environment and Resilience (M-Power), along with other organizations, and was funded by a grant from the Australian Government through AusAID.

During the forum, participants debated and provided recommendations on what sustainable water development means for the Mekong region. There were also many presentations on the latest thinking in technologies, management, institutions, financing, research, policy and decision making and other aspects of water development in the nexus of water, food and energy. More than 100 people from different countries in the Mekong regions, Europe, Australia...etc., representing senior government officials, NGOs, IOs, donors, private developers and research institutes; participated actively in the panel debates and discussion during the two and half day forum.

Mr. Khim Sophanna contributed to the forum by facilitating two sessions: *Cambodian Australian partnership roundtable discussion and the relationship between research, policy and decision making*. The forum was opened by the Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, H.E. Penny Richards and H.E. Veng Sakhon, the Secretary of State of the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology. The presentations and results of the forum can be downloaded from CPWF's website. The second forum will be organized by the end of next year in Hanoi, Vietnam.

