

Building Self-Reliant Family Farm Communities in Cambodia

CEDAC in cooperation with Bread for the World (BfdW) is implementing a development project called “**Building Self-Reliant Family Farm Communities in Cambodia**”. The project will run over a 36 month period, starting from January 2014 to December 2016 and it covers 400 Villages of 10 Districts in three provinces namely Takeo, Kampong Speu and Kampong Chhnang Province.

The overall objective of the project is to break the **vicious circle of poverty** and **reducing the gap between the rich and the poor** by enabling farmers to change their attitude and to develop their capacity in the following three key areas:

- 1) Changing farmers from being in-efficient and low productive farmers to be the efficient, productive organic rice farmers (by using innovations in ecological agriculture, especially SRI) so that they can produce more high quality products, especially **organic fragrant rice**, **organic vegetable**, and **chicken** with lower cost for the market.
- 2) Changing from **selling paddy** at any prices are determined by traders at harvest time to selling **milled rice** direct with prices influenced by the producers, so that they can get higher prices for their products. They will have access to paddy by products to be used for improve soil fertility (rice bran and bio char) and developing diversified farming (rice bran and broken rice).
- 3) Changing farmer’s attitude from **spending first** (spending according to income capacity) to **saving first** and spending thereafter (saving according to income capacity) so that they can increase their capacity to invest in cooperative rice mills and other pro-farmer social enterprises as well to build community-based financial resources

The project will work directly with **1000 outstanding farmer leaders** in developing and disseminating self-reliant development initiatives, such as saving for self-reliance, growing high value organic SRI and other high value products of the market, and developing producer and rice mill cooperatives.

Through 400 selected target villages, the project will provide indirect support to **40,000 families** to improve their living conditions, including women headed households and marginalized farmers. Among them, 12,000 farmers are developed to be market oriented farmers, especially in producing high value organic rice for the market.

