

## **Workshop on Gender Dimensions in Food Security and Climate Change**

October 2, 2009

The Farmer and Nature Net (FNN) organized a workshop on Gender Dimensions in Food Security and Climate Change with technical support from the Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA) and a small grant from Ifad. Thirty-eight people, including 16 women, attended the workshop at the Royal Palace Hotel, Phnom Penh. Participants included members of the Security Department of the Rural Development Council of Cambodia; representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF); the Ministry of Environment; Oxfarm GB; CARITAS; researchers; representatives from AFA; and the community representatives of FNN from 11 provinces in Cambodia.

The objectives of this workshop were:

- To disseminate information on the situation and impacts of climate change on food security with a emphasis on the impacts associated with women and poor farmers
- To understand about the government's policies and programs that support and provide coping mechanisms for the impacts of climate change
- To provide a forum for farmers, government authorities, and stakeholders to discuss and gain deeper understand about the issues and activities related to climate change and food security

The workshop was successful in providing greater understanding about the issues related to climate change and its effects on food security. For example, climate change has caused many difficulties for Cambodian farmers such as low productivity and low income that contributes to poverty and forced migration for labor purposes. These challenges are more significant for women and poor farmers. As a result of the discussions, the government body and NGOs promised to work harder in disseminating information on relevant laws and to promote technical assistance with a firm commitment to recruit other countries to help solve this issue.