

Project Update: December 2012

Training course on fish-vegetable integrated system

A training course on fish-vegetable integrated system was provided by Mr Iv Vichet, Stung Treng fisheries administration cantonment on 23rd December 2012 at Samaki commune chief's house. The main objectives of the training course were to increase more understanding of the project's beneficiaries financially supported by the Rufford Small Grants Foundation at the second stage about the fish-raising and vegetable growing integrated system and to mainstream this culture technique into their livelihoods activities as a strategic mechanism to deal with the likely changes in the availability of the natural resources and uncertainty about the climate. Twenty-three local people including Thmey village chief, Samaki commune chief and Lou Vanny were directly involved in the training course.

Training manuals from Fisheries Administration Cantonment were distributed to all trainees during the training course. The trainer clearly explained about stages of fish culture from fish-fry stock into the ponds at an appropriate way, care, feeding, and pest control and harvesting. During the training, some questions were raised from project's beneficiaries.

At the end of the training course, 510 catfish fry were stocked into every pond of each project's beneficiary by themselves just under direct technical observation from Stung Treng fisheries administration officer.

Some project beneficiaries have already grown some kinds of vegetables close to the fish ponds, while some others have just prepared land for growing them.

Furthermore, baseline survey was conducted in December 2012 with the project beneficiaries to collect data on livelihoods variables such as household income, expenditure, fishing trips to the river and types of social network in the community in the pre-project intervention.



Future plan

The project has already invited Mr. William Murray, unpaid Rufford-funded project technical advisor, to make a field visit to the project site in Samaki commune of Stung Treng province from 10th - 12th February 2013. The main purposes of his visit are to visit the project site and meet with project's beneficiaries, other interested people, Thmey community fisheries committee members and Stung Treng fisheries administration cantonment to seek his technical

advice on the implementation of the project and find ways for future project's intervention to strengthen local people's livelihoods.