

## Project Update: September 2008

Two project staff who is a head and an extension of the Trapeang Thma community fishery (TTCF) attended the national symposium entitled "Emerging Trends, Challenges and Innovations for community-based natural resources management (CBNRM) in Cambodia" which was held from 10-11 September 2008 at Phnom Penh Hotel in Phnom Penh city, and organized by the CBNRM Learning Institute. The event provides them good opportunity to gain better understanding on decentralized policies and practices. They use what they have gained from such meeting to share with and disseminate to other villagers during awareness raising campaigns. All expenses including costs of transportation, meals and accommodations for them were born by the event organizer due to good cooperation.

Mr. William Murray who is a project adviser from the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok paid his visit to the project site in Banteay Meanchey province, north-west of Cambodia from 18-20 September 2008. During the visit, he met with local project team (five TTCF committee members) and a commune head to discuss project progress and issues encountered. Summary of the progress for the month of September 2008 is a total number of six community fishery campaigns were held for eight villages in the commune of Paoy Char during the month. Total number of 429 participants (villagers-fishers) attended the campaigns. As the results, a total number of 13 fish electrocution devices (photo attached) are given to local authorities. Note on the project issue discussed was lack of manpower to assist the TTCF committee to carry out patrol and monitoring activities, especially at the night time. The meeting approved the recruitment of an additional project team member, Mr. Pich Horm effective from 1 October 2008, based on his active involvement, election by villagers and recommendation of the commune head and TTCF committee.

