

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) OF RUSSEY SANH SAMBOPHAL COOPERATIVE:

Prey Veng Province:



On Tuesday February 10th, 2015, FNN's member, Russey Sanh Sambophal Cooperative of Sithor Kandal district network, Prey Veng province, held its annual GA at its cooperative hall, where around 150 representatives, whom more than 50% were female, participated in the GA. Among them included head of provincial department of agriculture, district governor, Head of agriculture district bureau, commune chief, FNN provincial/district network leader, FNN's Executive Director and staff, members of the coop and representatives of FNN's networks from nearby district networks such as Por Rieng and Kanchreach districts attended.



Key objectives of the GA were to (1) overview and reflect activities done of the coop, which included achievements and challenges; and (2) set action plan for next fiscal year.

Achieved results and objectives as of follows:

In an executive report of Mr. Ung Touch, Russey Sanh Sambophal was initially established as an association on April 21, 2006, with 42 founding members whom 21 were females and total saving capital were 840,000 riels or about US\$207. However, on December 3rd, 2011, the association was registered with the provincial department of agriculture (DPA) to be a Cooperative of Russey Sanh Sambophal.



Up to the end of 2014, the coop has 632 shareholders (whom 557 are female) with 27,058 shares, which each share value 50,000 riels and total shares valued 1,352,900,000 riels or (about US\$334,050). Meanwhile, saving members are 217 persons (whom 133 are female) with total saving capital are 1,342,590,900 riels or (about US\$331,504). The coop owns collective/institutional fund 61,376,300 riels or (about US\$15,155) and also social shares are 22,500,000 riels or (about US\$5,556).

Total amount of the coop by the end of 2014 is 2,779,387,200 riels or (about US\$686,268). Fix asset of the coop by the end of 2014 are included land, office, tractor, truck, and other office supply. Key businesses of the coop in 2014 were (1) saving and credit, (2) purchasing and selling rice paddy and seeds, (3) buying and selling agricultural inputs, (4) plowing services (tractor) and (5) construction services of latrines and sewage rings etc.

Mr. Ung Touch made more detail about business activities of his coop and he also presented about the strength, weakness, opportunity and threats. He finally, presented about the action plan for next year activities and made some suggestions to get supports from the government and relevant stakeholders. The suggestions were included (1) needs of software training about bookkeeping, data entry, and accounting system, (2) training on agricultural techniques and processing especially on good rice seeds, (3) agricultural dried facility, (4) need supports for soft loans with low interest rate, and (5) needs capacity building about water management, small irrigation and family ponds.

After listening to a summary report of Mr. Ung Touch, chairperson of the coop, in his opening remark, Mr. Phae Im, district governor of Sithor Kandal, really appreciated and

highly valued about great achievements of the coop, which led by farmers for the farmers. He strongly stressed about strong leadership and solidarity among the coop leaders and members, especially about the instillation of saving culture and credit for self-reliance. In his advice, he also compared about loans and debts of farmers to banks, MFIs, and private money loaners with self-saving and credit for self-reliance.



By the end, in closing remarks, Mr. Uk Samnang, head of provincial department of agriculture of prey veng, highly valued about the great achievements and praised the coop leaders and members for having been working hard to develop the cooperative. He also mentioned about good cooperation of the coop leaders and members with the government authority at all levels.

He encouraged the coop leaders and members to continue developing the coop through building good relationship and cooperation with the government and partners.

In responses to suggestions of the coop Mr. Samnang said he will try his best to find solutions and partners who are relevant and are able to provide most services have been requested.

By Secretariat