

# Case Study of

## *MALIS project Beneficiaries*

### **Mr Yu Hoeury and Mrs Eon Seam's Family**

Chhke Sreng Village, Cherng Tein Commune,  
Chongkal District, Oddar Meanchey Province.



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## **FARMER PROFILE**

Mr. **Yu Hoeuy** is 48 years old and his wife Mrs. **Eon Seam** is 53 years old. They are farmers living in Chhker Sreng Village, Cherng Tien Commune Chongkal District, Oddar Meanchey Province since 1993. He has 7 children (4 sons and 3 Daughters) and 2 of them are married. His homeland is Laberk Village, Klanghay Commune, Srei Snom District, Siem Reap Province. At his homeland, the farming activity provided less and less yield from year to year so he decided to change and move to a new settlement at Chhker Sreng village. When he moved, the village chief gave him a 25 x 40 meter plot of land for new a habitat in the village and half a hectare of agriculture land.

The daily income of the family comes from farming and livestock (chickens, duck raising) and rice farming. His current farmland is 3 hectares with a garden land of 0.5 hectare. Besides rice farming, he uses half a hectare (0.5ha) of land for planting cassava as an additional income. The resulting yields of cassava were 2 tons per 0.5 hectares, and the yield of rice farming in total was 2.5 tons for 3 hectares.

Due to the low income from agriculture products, he cannot support his family enough for the whole year; his family had a shortage of rice for consumption 2 months of the year. During the shortage of rice, his family had to borrow his brother's rice from his homeland and repaid it after the next harvest collection.

In several years past, the yields were not so high so he had to borrow repeatedly; therefore he required that his eldest daughter and her husband migrate to find work in Thailand to supply additional income to help the family in the repayment of debts.

## **CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT ON FARMER'S LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT**

In March 2013, with the support of the European Union (EU), through Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), a project was implemented by Rural Community and Environment Development Organization (RCEDO) to improve food security and Market Linkage for Smallholders (MALIS) in Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear province. In order to find appropriate participants, village meetings were held. After the third village meeting at Chhker Sreng, we found 28 farmers who were interested in and applied for Farmer Field School (FFS), including 18 Females. One of these families was Mr. Yu Hoeuy's family. He stated that chicken raising is an important source of income to support his family. He assigned his son, Hong Heang, 19 years old, to participate in FFS activity on chicken raising, because he felt he was too old to study and learn new technical information.

Mr. Hong Heang volunteered to be a model farmer to practice the new technical principles of safety fences, water barrels, troughs for feed, improved chicken breed selection and good use of vaccines and medicines that receive support from the project.

After attending the FFS, Mr. Hong Heang began to change old habits and implemented the new strategies that were learned for raising chickens. Previously, he raised 3 hens and 1 cock, and had 120 baby chickens born yearly, with 10-20 baby chickens dying early. The previous chicken pen was built together under a roof of the cow cage (see image below).



Picture on the right hand of Farmers is a previous chicken pen built together under a roof of the cow cage

## PRESENTL LIVING SITUATION OF FARMER

After having confidence and believing in the project **Mr. Yu Hoeyu's** family began to change old habits of raising chickens and used the new techniques learned. Now, new cage building and technical aspects of chicken raising are actively used and conditions are improved following the learning of new technique from FFS, under the facilitation of RCEDO and PDA staff. **Mr. Yu Hoeyu's** said that “I expect to receive more income from my chicken raising through using new FFS technique in the next 4/ 5 months”.



Chicken pen building activities of Mr. Yu Hoeyu in Chhker Sreng village.

## FUTURE GOALS OF FARMER

**Mr. Yu Hoeyu** said that after the cage construction is completed, he will add 6 more chickens to the existing 4 chickens, bringing the total to 10 chickens, all being raised following the new techniques learned through the FFS. The chicken raising activity can help his family earn more income and prevent his children from facing the risks of working in Thailand. He continued on to say that “I do not want to live isolated from my children, I want to live together with them, because I am older” and “even if my family does not get benefits from this projects, I want to thank the staff of RCEDO that came often to train and provide technical advice to my family to start raising chickens”.