



## **The governments of Mekong River basin countries should listen to our people!**

Following the PNPCA roadmap applied for Donsahong dam project

Using available information in MRC's website for the consultation process of Donsahong dam project

Vietnam Rivers Network's members and partners have organized a number of activities to collect the comments and opinions from Mekong Delta people in Vietnam regarding the proposed dam Donsahong from November to December 2014. 15 consultation workshops have been held in the Mekong Delta with the participation of thousand people including grass-root farmers, women and representatives of Mekong Delta people through Women and Farmers Union from 12 provinces in the Delta. It was the first time that community people in the Mekong Delta heard about this dam and others proposed in the mainstream of the Mekong river. 100% participants shared big concerns about the potential transboundary impacts caused by Donsahong dam and others proposed in the mainstream of Mekong River on water flow mechanism, environment, fish migration, and sediment consequently they will affect their livelihoods, jobs, and living conditions for current and future generations. According to the Famer Union's representative in Chau Thanh District, Tien Giang Province, Mekong River is a shared water resource and common asset among Mekong countries. It is not proper to say that the river belongs to any national sovereignty. Using water from Mekong River by one country is not only a national decision itself and it is not acceptable if this water use do harm the other countries. It is similar that it is unacceptable if an upstream country throws the trash into the river and the downstream countries suffer from that? Once the dam was built, there would be no solution to reverse. Well learning from national and international experiences related to dam development, 100% participants have insisted opposing the Don Sahong dam. Then the people ask the governments in the Mekong Region to listen to public opinions to respect the nature, keep free flowing Mekong river for sustainable development for people. Mekong Delta people also share concern that

the Lao's friends will also have a lot of impacts from this kind of development and appeal Lao government to cancel Donsahong project and delay the decision on other proposed mainstream dams for at least 10 years for further studies to avoid serious irreversible effects on locals' lives and livelihood and destroying the mighty Mekong river.

On the other hand, there are more than 300 people expressing their views of do not agree with the construction of Don Sahong hydropower in the online consultation [donsahong.tk](http://donsahong.tk) implemented by VRN.

**SOME PHOTOS OF CONSULTATIONS**

