



BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES IN CAMBODIA

Handing over a certificate at a training for 'Building Disaster Resilient Communities'.

Empowering women and communities across Cambodia to claim their rights and entitlements

Project overview:

In Cambodia, infrastructure development, land rights violations and exploitation by private companies have restricted access to land and natural resources for marginalised communities. Women, in particular, have minimal access to and control over land, and face challenges influencing local authorities and holding private organisations to account. These factors mean that women and other marginalised groups are ill-equipped to prepare for and respond when disasters strike.

To increase access to and control over land for marginalised communities, ActionAid is supporting a range of civil society organisations (CSOs) to strengthen their collaboration, research skills and advocacy work. These civil society groups will then help communities become more aware of their rights and entitlements, empowering hundreds of thousands of people across Cambodia to claim their rights and work to hold private companies accountable. ActionAid is also engaging with farmers to have greater influence on policies around agricultural land ownership.

Some of the key project activities and outputs:

The activities of this project will help strengthen the resilience of Cambodian women and communities involved, through:

- Increasing the awareness of rights and entitlements of 304,000 people nationwide, and demonstrated capacity of 15,000 community members;
- Promoting gender sensitivity and women's leadership in disaster risk reduction (DRR) through support for women DRR champions and delivering DRR Training of Trainers courses;
- Developing the technical monitoring, documentation and research skills and stronger networking, advocacy and communications capacity of 28 CSOs, 25 land rights activists and 50 citizen journalists.

Project duration:

2016 - 2019

Supported by:

ActionAid Australia

In partnership with:

ActionAid Cambodia

Location:

Cambodia

Project objectives:

- Increased resilience of urban and rural communities in Cambodia exposed to hazards and disasters;
- Strengthened capacity of CSOs and marginalised communities to increase their access to and control over land;
- Strengthen staff and partner capacity development.

Impact:

Through the project, women are being supported to lead in designing plans to reduce the risk of future disasters. In addition, local and national institutions are being trained on the importance of women's leadership in disaster preparedness and response so that they integrate this approach into their own disaster response work.

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