



# GENDER RESPONSIVE ALTERNATIVES TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Grassroots women from Kampot Province

## Building the capacity of women leaders to address gendered impacts of climate change and build resilience

### Project overview:

Climate change and climate related disasters are increasingly impacting the lives and livelihoods of people in Cambodia, and it is vital that communities are prepared for disasters and climate crises. Due to structural and gender inequalities in Cambodia, women and other marginalised people are often excluded from the decision-making and leadership processes that prepare a community for climate crises and building the community's resilience to climate change. This means women's needs and voices are not included in the processes and planning that could significantly reduce their vulnerability in a disaster.

By supporting women to increase their capacity and knowledge to prepare for and respond to gender-related risks of climate change and related crises; and empowering them to take collective action to influence and engage in policy, planning, and decision-making processes, ActionAid is helping to put those most affected by climate change front and centre of the movement for climate justice.

### Key project activities and outputs:

This project is supporting women in Cambodia to strengthen their collective voice and leadership in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) through empowerment, solidarity, and local, sub-national and national advocacy on women's rights and needs during disasters. This includes:

- Training 36 community women, leaders and members of Disaster Management Committees (DMC) on women's rights and DRR and CCA leadership and campaigning;
- Supporting 27 women activists to develop a joint advocacy plan and charter of demands, and engage in national and international climate change policy and planning;
- Supporting 27 villages across 9 communes conduct risk and capacity assessments and develop gender-responsive DRR/CCA plans.

“Previously, I was very scared to speak in meetings especially in front of the authorities. I never went out of my province because I am a woman... Now I always share what I learn with my family, neighbours, community and my local authority.” - Mrs Pak from Kampot District, Cambodia

### Project duration:

July 2017 - June 2019

### Supported by:

The Australian Aid Program under the ANCP Gender Action Platform and ActionAid Australia's Arise Fund

### In partnership with:

ActionAid Cambodia

### Location:

Kampot and Pursat Provinces, Cambodia

### Project objectives:

- Increase the capacity and knowledge of women to prepare for and respond to disasters and climate change risks
- Support women in taking collective action to influence and engage in local, national and international policies and decision-making on climate change and disasters

### Impact:

ActionAid is working with local women, as well as women leaders of local Disaster Management Committees, to strengthen their engagement and leadership in building community resilience and disaster risk reduction policy development and planning.

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