

CBDRR

Case Study of Bourei Cholsar

CONTEXT

Bourei Cholsar is a district of Takeo province located in the southern area of Cambodia. In the last 10 years, the most common disasters have been flood, drought, strong winds, and the overuse of pesticides. These disasters happen at least once every three years and at times two have occurred simultaneously. In 2011, more than ten thousand people were affected by floods, a similar event taking place again in 2013¹. Although there is the Commune Committee for Disaster Management (CCDM) and the District Committee for Disaster Management (DCDM) in Cambodia, both committees suffer from low capacity due to insufficient budgets.



The vulnerable groups most affected by these hazards are those living on low-lying land as well as large families, the poor, the unemployed, widows, orphans and children whose parents migrate to other places. Additionally, people who depend on a single source of income, farmers for example, are also included in this category because their work can be drastically impacted by floods that can destroy crops or rice fields. This factor can lead to further poverty for vulnerable families.

AREA PROGRAM INTERVENTION

In 2018 the Bourei Cholsar Area Program integrated and implemented the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) program into its development program by adapting the Community-Based for Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) approach. This aims to strengthen the capacity of community partners on disaster risk reduction, as well as improve the response to hazards in the target areas. The AP has worked cooperatively with the DCDM to select their five potential members who will train on CBDRM for the Training of Trainer (ToT) program. Those chosen for the ToT program will then continue training another 43 members of the DCDM (3 women) and 81 members of the CCDM (17 Women). As a result, the DCDM and CCDM will then be able to conduct risk assessments in their communities and create actions for disaster mitigation. Consequently, the DCDM will be able to publish their District Emergency Preparedness and Respond Plan (DEPRP).



¹ CamDi database



During flooding September 2018, the DCDM and CCDM were active in mobilizing resources from NGO partners, Red Cross, and local traders to support the affected families. This work was based on DEPRP.

6 types of responses were provided to affected families from 3 communes. Food, water filters, tents, life jackets, and Water Purification (PUR) benefited 700 families, consisting of 2,590 people (1,126 women), including 1,225 children (532 girls).

Mr. Ros Bunthoeun, Vice-district governor stated that "Before we didn't have much capacity related to preparedness and response planning, as in this area disasters happen almost every year. After WV improved our capacity and supported us to develop the District

Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, we have become an active and strong network, both externally and internally, and can mobilize the resources needed to respond to the affected area."

In the next implementation, the program will continue to strengthen the capacity of the DCDM and CCDM for the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, with a particular focus on strengthening effective networking and functioning. The capacity building activities also focus on community groups coming up with their community DRR plan and implementation. Additionally, we will strengthen early warning system to inform the community to be ready before disaster strikes.

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