

Child Friendly Community



INITIATIVE



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FORWARD

The Royal Government of Cambodia considers the children as the 'Young Bamboo Shoots' from which the next generation will grow.

The 2008 census revealed that Cambodia has one of the youngest populations in South East Asia, with children representing 41% of the population, or with 5.48 million under the age of 18. Cambodia therefore has a particular responsibility to protect its large population of children and to ensure that they reach their full potential, in order to provide a firm foundation for the future of the nation.

To meet this aim, Cambodia ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on October 15th 1992 and other two Optional Protocols of CRC time after.

The Government also established Cambodia National Council for Children since 1995 as a mechanism that coordinates and provides comments to the Royal Government on works relating to the survival, development, protection, improved welfare of children and child participation.

In communities, majorities of population are children who are the most vulnerable group. Before becoming adults, children pass through many development stages which include unborn, born, infancy, toddlerhood, early-childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence. Every child has the same rights to live a decent life, which are on survival, protection, development and participation. To fulfill all rights and full potential of children, adults, family, communities and authorities as primary and secondary duty bearers play meaningful role to ensure children rights are realised based on guiding principles such as non discrimination, participation, survival and development and best interest of the child.

Plan International as one of the largest international organisations dedicated to eliminate child poverty in cooperation with Cambodia National Council for Children has developed and introduced an initiative in Cambodia on Child Friendly Community. This initiative is a value addition to improve a conducive environment for children, where their rights are recognised, supported and realised.

We are confident that the initiative of Child Friendly Community will inspire all duty bearers, key stakeholders, communities, civil society and children to practice their potential for realising child rights in different stages of development, not only at local level but also extending the ideas to provincial and national level.

Phnom Penh, June 2012



Supriyanto
Country Director
Plan International Cambodia



H.E Khiev Bory
Secretary General
Cambodian National Council for Children



CONCEPTUALISATION



1. What is Child Friendly Community (CFC) Initiative?



Fulfillment of rights in all stages of child development will consequently lead children to realise their full potential. It is what CFC is all about. To go in further details, a community is child friendly when it can assure a conducive environment where following sets of rights of children are realised,

- **Health and nutrition:** Child health is significant and depends heavily on efficient health services, sufficient intake of nutritious diets and potable water including sanitation facilities. The parents, community and service providers ensure provision of these for a healthy growth of children. Children when reach their adolescence, they can access friendly sexual and reproductive health service and are well equipped for safe and responsible sexual lives.



- **Protection:** Children must have birth certificate and are well protected and safe from all forms of violence, negligence, exploitation, and discrimination, even in the time of emergency. Services on prevention, recovery and reintegration are available and accessible.



- **Education:** Children are fully supported and encouraged by parents, teachers, families, caregivers and concerned authorities at all levels to access quality education services and leisure activities with safe, healthy and childfriendly environment.

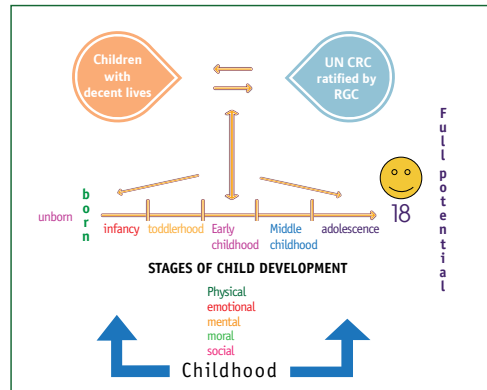


- **Participation:** Children have access to commune information (plans and budget), complaint mechanism. They are encouraged and given the opportunities to participate in decision making at home, communities, school and government institutions at all levels that affect them. They can enjoy freedom to expression and act as active citizens.



2. Why Child Friendly Community initiative ?

To comply with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which ratified by the Royal Government of Cambodia in 1992, all communities must be encouraged to promote child friendliness. In the communities, majorities of the population are children, which are amongst the most vulnerable group. From development psychological perspective, before reaching adulthood, children pass through various developmental stages including the unborn or conception, the born, infancy, toddlerhood, early childhood, middle childhood and adolescence. In every stage, children have their own characteristics, issues and rights.



A child friendly and holistic life cycle approach must be followed by all stakeholders so that children’s issues and rights are well addressed in a way that allows children to meaningfully enjoy their rights to survival, protection, development and participation; leading to live decent lives. To ensure the effectiveness of the said approach, adults, families, communities and concerned authorities as secondary and primary duty bearer should,

All children realising their full potential in societies that respect people’s rights and dignity



- Put children at the centre of their development activities
- Take actions guided by Human Rights principles and international standards
- Exercise their responsibility and accountability
- Ensure inclusion and non-discrimination
- Ensure gender equity
- Promote participation of children.



WAYS COMMUNITY ACHIEVES CHILD-FRIENDLINESS

1. Expected roles and duties for stakeholders

We need to organise and/or strengthen local institutions or service providers consistent with the needs and rights of children in order to ensure that basic services are delivered to respond to the needs and rights of children. Key stakeholders (including their expected roles and duties) include,

Commune/Sangkat Council ¹

- Presiding over the meeting of Commune/Sangkat Council
- Ensuring that the Commune/Sangkat Council meet at least once a month
- Ensuring that the meeting of Commune/Sangkat Council is properly held in accordance with rules and regulations stipulated in the internal rules and regulations of the Commune/Sangkat Council and provisions of Article 23 of this Law
- Maintaining good order of the meeting
- Implementing the decisions of Commune/Sangkat Council
- Implementing various rules and principles received from Commune/Sangkat Council
- Preparing reports on work performance to be submitted to Commune/Sangkat Council at least once a month
- Giving other opinions and assist the Commune/Sangkat Council to prepare financial planning and to carry out roles, functions and powers of the Commune/Sangkat Council and other affairs vested to by the Commune/Sangkat Council.



¹ From Articles 13-39 of the Law on the Administration and Management of Commune/Sangkat (2001)

Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC)²

- Preparing an annual work plan and budget for the Committee and submit to the C/S Council for approval
- Providing advice and assist the C/S Council and the C/S chief on the tasks related to women and children in C/S
- Raising awareness on laws and other policies related to women and children's rights to the people in the C/S and to mobilize the respective communities on health, education, protection and child development including registration of newborn babies and children
- Advocating for women to participate in decision making relating to the development of the C/S
- Increasing and strengthen communication, collaboration and coordination among C/S Councils, service providers and villagers that implement activities to help women and children in the C/S
- Assisting C/S Councils to collect, analyze information and data related to issues and needs of women and children and integrate this information into the CDP and the CIP
- Participating in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the C/S work plan related to women and children
- Monitoring the situation of women and children in the C/S and report regularly to the C/S Council and include this information in the C/S reports.



² From National Committee for the Management of Decentralization and Deconcentration Reform: the Functioning of Commune Committee for Women and Children (2008)

Commune/Sangkat Police ³

Commune/Sangkat police is a member of CCWC and has related responsibilities as following:

- Participating in the review, discussion, and adoption process relating to the draft annual work plan and budget of the Committee and report on its implementation as related to their individual sector
- Participating in collecting, analysing information and data related to women and children issues and the C/S Profile
- Paying attention to the prevention and mitigation of domestic violence cases, abuses, trafficking, sexual and labour exportations of women and children in C/S
- Participating in monthly meetings of the Committee and providing information related to child protection, education, and health of women and children regularly to the Committee
- Mobilising and encouraging villagers to participate in the activities related to women and children in their village and C/S.



Child/Youth Group

- Involving in monitoring the situation of children and working with the community
- Initiating activities that build self-esteem and promoting participation among children and youth, mainly most vulnerable group
- Raising issues of children to commune councils, CCWCs through meeting and planning.



Health Centre⁴

Chief or representative of health centre in coordination with village chief, village health volunteer and other relevance should encourage:

- Pregnant women to receive antenatal care
- Pregnant women to deliver baby at health centre
- Children under one year old to get immunisation on preventable disease
- Aware of health care and sanitation among children
- Aware of family planning.



⁴ From National Committee for the Management of Decentralization and Deconcentration Reform: the Functioning of Commune Committee for Women and Children (2008)

Community Preschool

- Delivering effectively child care requirements
- Ensuring the availability of story books, toys and other maturing using local resources
- Having a play areas, weighing scales and utensils
- Creating enabling environment for children, mainly most marginalised ones, to express ideas based on their evolving capacities.



Elementary and Secondary Schools

- Ensuring that teachers and school personnel promote child rights/needs, child centred learning and active learning methods
- Setting up a programme to attain classroom ratio of one teacher to 40 students, with desks and textbooks for each child
- Ensuring that local schools have the basic amenities (i.e., sanitary toilet, clean water facilities) and meet special needs of children with disabilities.
- Linking up with information centers to provide access to children
- Coordinating with local School Support Committee to determine the needs of students
- Promoting children's participation in school management planning and decision making
- Promoting children's participation in school management planning and decision making.
- Linking with District Governor to advocate the needs of pupils
- Mobilising resources for student initiative or activities in schools.



Civil Society Organisations

Civil society organisations composed of non-government organisations (NGO), professional clubs, religious groups, civic clubs, community-based organisations, children's organisations, etc. Their roles are,

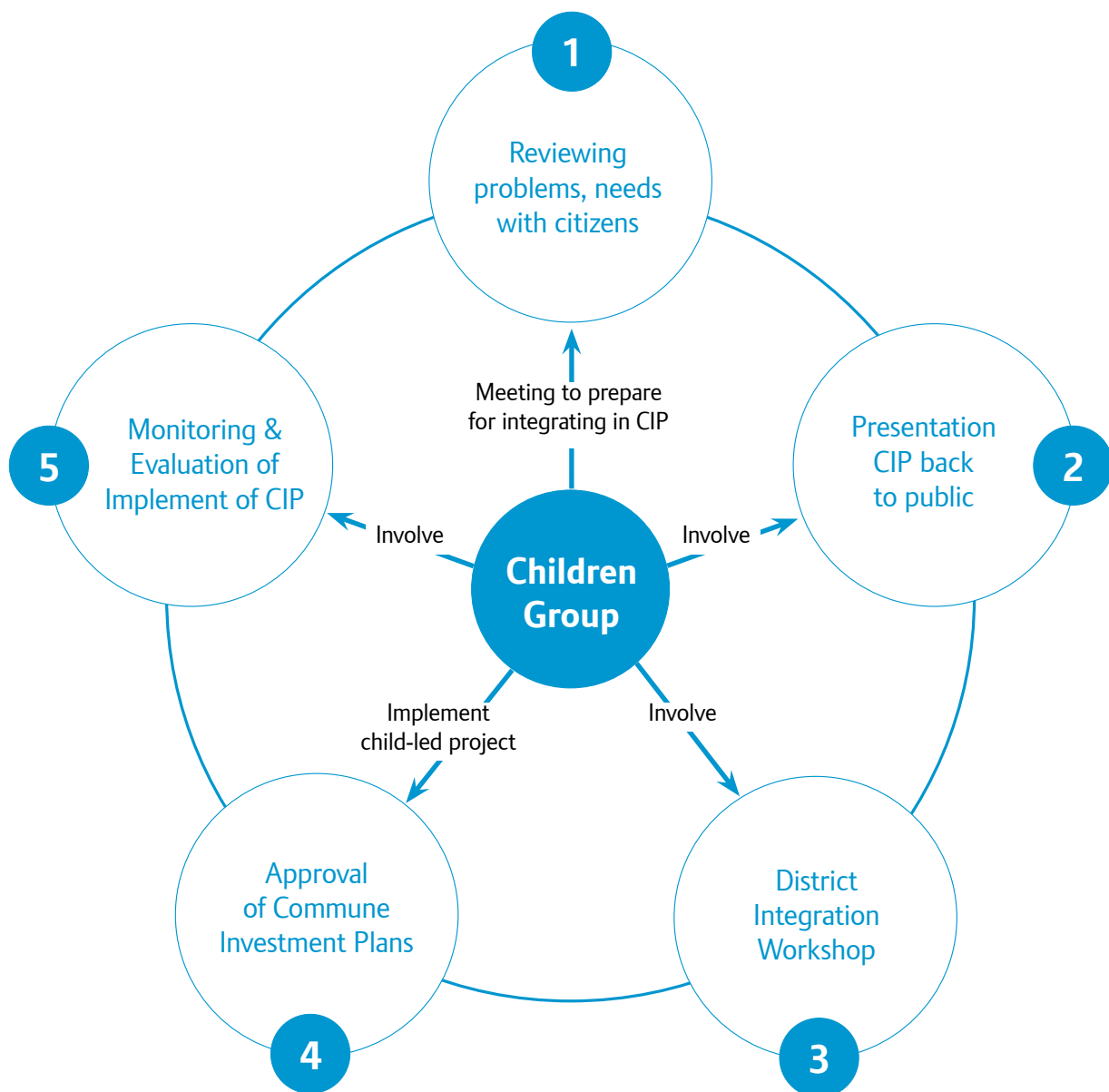
- Offering a lot of talent, expertise and technical services in order to assist the community in its development initiatives for children. The lack of resources in the community can be supplemented by these groups.
- Participating in local development planning process
- Promoting children's rights, especially child protection and child participation in decision making affected them.



* Civil Society Organisation

Child Friendly Community Planning

Four main needs and services of children to become Child Friendly Community are being planned in all steps of local planning process of Commune Investment Plan (CIP). In this process children have rights to participate in social and developmental activities and express their needs and ideas to put in the government planning through local planning process. In each step will mention how children can participate.



Step 1: Reviewing problems and needs with citizens: Adults and children should raise issues related to four main needs and services of CFC as follow:

- nutritional food to eat
- water sanitation and hygienic
- access early childhood care,
- child health including sexual and reproductive health
- education and leisure
- birth certificate
- Child abuse
- Child safety including in emergency
- Child participation in family, community and social development

How children can participate? Prior to this step children groups will meet to prepare their needs and priorities among above issues that benefit children. Priorities should be maximum not more than five issues per group proposed for each year. During this preparation meeting two representatives of the group will be nominated by the group to involve in other steps of CIP. The representatives of the group together with the focal person of CCWC will bring the priority plan to the meeting on reviewing problems and needs with citizens organized by Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) for integration.

Step 2: Presentation of CIP back to public: In this step the draft of Commune Development Framework and Budget will be presented back to citizens and relevant stakeholders. All public comments will be recorded for improvement. The representatives of children group who are nominated in step 1 will attend this feedback session organized at location decided and announced by commune chief.

Step 3: District Integration Workshop (DIW): This workshop is firstly, to give chance to link CIP with plans of the Provincial Sector Departments, NGOs, civil society and other development partners; secondly, to mobilize resources to support commune investment projects; and thirdly, to guide the local activities to be in line with the national and provincial development policies. In this step the again at least one representative of children group and focal person of CCWC will attend the workshop at district level. If children's representative cannot attend because of lacking budget for travelling, the CCWC focal person should represent children group to attend.

Step 4: Project implementation: After knowing the secure budget for projects which are related to benefits of children, CCs will decide how to and who will implement. Children can also implement project initiated by and benefit to them with support from local stakeholders above. Projects can be related to awareness raising, training, and development.

Step 5: Monitoring and evaluation of CIP implementation: To review and evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of CIP and get experiences for improvement in the next cycle. All local stakeholders, especially CCs should be aware of all development projects implemented in their territory, especially those signed the agreement with CCs during the DIW. Children groups should also know all projects and locations in their communities. representatives of children in the community where the project is located should involve in monitoring and evaluation. He/she should be able to report the progress and issues about the projects to the focal person of CCWC. In addition to the Monitoring and Evaluation Manual for Commune/ Sangkat, the below strategy can be adapted to measure indicators set at the early stage.



2. Instruments to measure

Form A: Standards to rate the families in the community

It assesses access of services and its results on the health, nutrition, education, protection and participation in socio-cultural/development activities of the children.

Instruction:

- Column 1: Indicators that the community has to achieve to be considered as Child Friendly
- Column 2: Baseline
- Column 3: No star
- Column 4: One Star
- Column 5: Two Stars
- Column 6: Three Stars
- Column 7: Remarks



En circle the column that represents the situation in your commune. This can help you determine what indicator has to be given attention by your commune.

Child Friendly Community Indicators	Baseline	No star	☆	☆☆	Desirable Standard ☆☆☆☆	Remarks
Health and Nutrition						
1. Number of mothers who died after delivery (0 day-1 month) (CDB)		>2	2	1	0	
2. Number of newborns who died after delivery (0 day-1 month) (CDB)		>2	2	1	0	
3. % of pregnant women delivered with support from trained birth attendance (CDB)		<50%	50-80%	81-99%	100%	
4. Total children (9 - 12 months) received complete vaccination (Health Centre)		<50%	50-80%	81-99%	100%	
5. Total children who died aged under 5 years old (CDB)		>5	4-3	2-1	0	
6. % of Family drink water from water filtered or boiled water (CDB)		<25%	25-75%	76-99%	100%	
7. % of family have latrine (CDB)		<20%	20-50%	51-99%	100%	
8. % of under five malnourished (underweight) children (Health Centre)		>30%	30-20%	19-1%	0%	
Education						
9. Total children, aged 3- under 6, go to pre-school (CDB)		<25%	25-50%	51-99%	100%	
10. Total children, aged 6-11, go to Primary school (CDB)		<75%	75-90%	91-99%	100%	
11. Total children, aged 12-14, go to lower-secondary school (CDB)		<60%	60-80%	81-99%	100%	
12. Total children, aged 15-17, go to secondary school (CDB)		<60%	60-80%	81-99%	100%	
Protection						
13. Total children have birth certificate (CDB)		<85%	85-90%	91-99%	100%	
14. Number of family face domestic violence (CDB)		>10	10-6	5-1	0	
15. Number of incidences of child abuses (sexual, child labor, trafficking, drug and corporal punishment) (CDB and interview with village chief)		>4	4-3	2-1	0	

Participation

16. Number of CC meeting participated by children representative) (CC meeting minutes)	<4	4-7	8-11	12	
17. Number of events/awareness organized and led by children group (CC reports or interview with children)	<2	2-3	4-5	6	
18. Number of issues raised by children included in CIP (CIP and Children's plan)	<2	2-3	4-5	6	

Note: Primary Source of the above indicators is the Commune Data Base, CC meeting minutes, and CIP. The indicators are designed for a pilot project in a user-friendly way for all levels. They will be redefined at later stage based on our learning.

How to compute the percentage for Form A

$$\% = \frac{\text{number of cases per criterion}}{\text{total number of families/persons in this category}} \times 100$$

Example:

$$\% \text{ of pregnant women with 4-prenatal check-up} = \frac{5 \text{ pregnant women with 4 prenatal check-up}}{20 \text{ pregnant women who gave birth}} \times 100 = 25\%$$



Form B: Standard to rate the institutions in the community





It assesses if the institutions in the community are set up to respond to the basic needs/rights of children.

Instruction

- Column 1: Existence of institutions in the commune
- Column 2: 'Yes' if respective institution exists, 'No' if not
- Column 3: Diamond (◇) if respective institution is well functioning; otherwise, give explanation

Institutions existing in the commune?	Yes/No	Diamond (◇) or Explanation
1. Commune/Sangkat Council		
2. School Support Committees		
3. Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC)		
4. Commune/Sangkat Police		
5. Child/Youth Group		
6. Health Centre		
7. Community Preschool Committees		

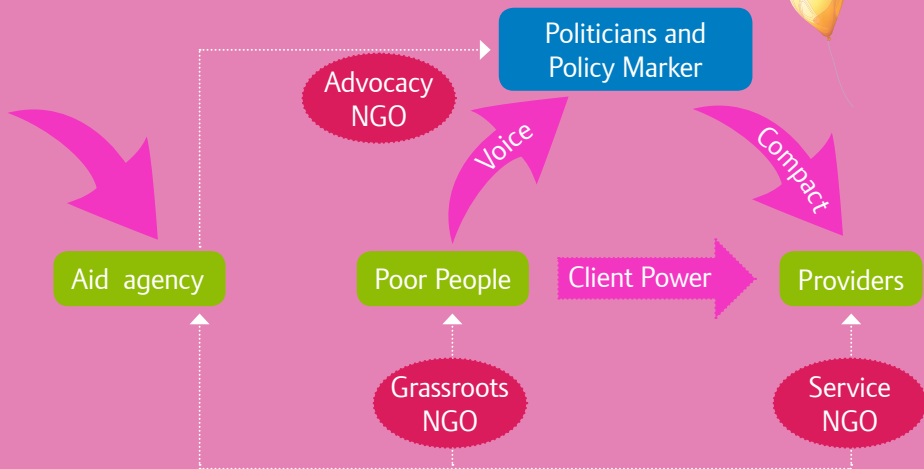
Form C: Rating the community based on Form A and B

How to rate your community	The community's situation
 if communes have at least 48 stars in Form A with at least 6 diamonds in Form B	
 if communes have 36-48 stars in Form A with at least 5 diamonds in Form B	
 if communes have 18-35 stars in Form A with at least 4 diamonds in Form B	
 if communes have less than 18 stars in Form A and less than 4 diamonds from Form B	

INTERACTIONS

Donor

Recipient



The key players are poor people including children (as rights holders) and provider (as duty bearers). Advocacy NGO coordinates the voice of poor people so that it is heard by politicians and policy makers. As a result, actions to address the needs and the rights are taken. Grassroots and service NGOs support poor people and children as well as provider (government) in a way that allows the two players to interact effectively and sustainably.



IMPACTS EXPECTED



BUILDING A CHILD FRIENDLY COMMUNITY-A ROADMAP

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Phase Out Sustain Relationship</p>	<p>Milestone: Community fully determines and facilitates their own development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✿ Functional local bodies and groups ✿ Children status reports from updated information system on children ✿ Effective enforcement of laws ✿ Children and women in mandated bodies ✿ Linkage with new partners ✿ Turnover and phase-out.
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Mid-phase Nurture Relationship</p>	<p>Milestones: Community, Plan, and other institutions jointly facilitate activities towards community-managed programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✿ Mandated bodies/community groups managing community projects. ✿ Annual meeting evaluation and updating of community development plans. ✿ Continuous trainings. ✿ Children organisations managing projects ✿ Exchanges of family sponsor-communications and reports.
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Phase-in Establish Relationship</p>	<p>Milestones: Plan initiates development process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✿ Agreement with the community ✿ Community profile/baseline ✿ Community development plan ✿ Investment plan ✿ Affiliation of children for sponsorship.



Move on to new areas

Child Friendly
Community
Evaluation



Sustaining Child-Centred Programmes

Monitoring and Evaluation
of Programmes



Trainings and Community Management of Projects



Community
Profiling

Community
Organising



Community
Planning

Self-help
Group

វិជ្ជាជាទ្រព្យ

ចុះឈ្មោះចូលរៀនដោយឥតបង់ថ្លៃ

សូមមាតាបិតា អាណាព្យាបាល
បញ្ជូនកូនទៅសាលារៀន

