

CARE CAMBODIA

# Local Economic Leadership for Marginalised Rural Women

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## SAFE MIGRATION APPROACHES

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## Acronyms

LEL	:	Local Economic Leadership for Marginalised Rural Women Project r
PDoWA	:	Provincial Department of Women's Affaire
DDoWA	:	District Department of Women's Affaire
PDoA	:	Provincial Department of Agriculture
DoA	:	District Department of Agriculture
PDoVL	:	Provincial Department of Vocational training and Labor
MRW	:	Marginalised Rural Women
FGDs	:	Focus Group Discussions
KII	:	Key Informant Interview
NGOs	:	Non-Governmental Organisations
ANCP	:	Australia NGO Cooperation Program
AUD	:	Australian Dollar
YWIB	:	Young Women In Business project
FIG	:	Farmer Interest Group
SDK	:	Satrek Dekneam Kaksethan (Women demonstration farmers)
SEZ	:	Special Economic Zone

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## Executive summary

Migration for work is a choice many people make, looking for better job and income opportunities away from home and seeking a higher quality of life for themselves and their families elsewhere. With funding from the Australian government, Local Economic Leadership for Marginalised Rural Women Project (LEL) will develop an effective approach to promote safe migration for marginalised rural women (MRW); pilot the new approach, and invest in targeted learning to capture lessons, document results and build evidence; and to inform future programming by CARE, and other stakeholders.

The purpose of this report is to build up an effective approach to promote safe migration for MRW; to support safer, more informed decision making amongst target women who decide to migrate to access jobs, as well as provide an overview of the current context of safe migration in Koh Kong Province. LEL project develop an effective safe migration approach through:

- 1) Organising a Safe Migration TOT training, plus discussion meeting with related government department from Provincial Department of Women Affair (PDoWA), Provincial Department of Vocational training and Labor (PDoVL), District Department of Women Affair (DDoWA), and district authority around migration situation and people movement information within the province, also their respective intervention activities to migration and migrants.
- 2) Conducting a Safe Migration Awareness and Research with community people to gather information around people mobility and migrant situation, as well as to promote safe migration among community people, and
- 3) Monitoring/follow up Safe Migration after the training with village authority and selected villager who have joint the Safe Migration awareness to capture any change of migration situation among community people after they have joint the awareness event, to finding out how livelihood intervention activities in intergraded farming from CARE affect to the migration of villager, and to identify any possible intervention activity from authority over villagers who wish to migrate or encounter problems during migration.

The result from TOT training and discussion meeting with related government departments indicated that there was no proper invention mechanism/activity at authority level to assist people who aim to migrate and respond to migrant who encounter problem during migration. Respective government departments got their own respond mechanism/ activity in which they reported it still limited.

Trainers from PDoWA, PDoV, DDoWA, district authority who have joint the TOT training continue to conduct the Safe Migration awareness and research to community people in 28 villages within Sre Ambel and Botum Sakor district, the project coverage area. From the activity, we could obtain the numbers of migrant from all above villages were around 1,123 persons, which were 613 females. Some of them have been doing a seasonal migration to work in sugarcane field at Sre Ambel district; some did a long time migrate to work in the factories at Koh Kong border, at the city and other province such as Seim Reap, Sihanoukville and Banteay Meanchey province and worked as a construction worker, garment factory worker, waiter/waitress, housemaid, fisherman...etc.; the rest migrated to Thailand to work as a fisherman, fish drying worker, shrimp peeling worker, fruit picker, housemaid and construction worker. Besides that, the significant knowledge and new skills have been

remarkably transferred to the community people. They have learned about pro and con of migration, safe and illegal migration, economic analysis, and how to prepare in the pre-departure.

In the last activity, some trainers from PDoWA, DDoWA and district authority continued to follow up the migration situation and people mobility at all 28 villages; respondents were village leader and selected community people who have participated in the awareness. The respondents have expressed and described the important of informing and/or seeking advice from authorities on migration, how to do in the pre-departure such as knowing the destination they want to migrate to, the wage they will receive, the general information of a company recruiting workers, how to report abuse to relevant authorities, not to trust a broker easily, be mindful of being cheated/trafficked. They also mentioned an effective tool, an economic analysis which was able to prove how big was the income from agriculture compared to the amount they could save from migration. Moreover, they also shared what they have learned to several other villagers who are their family members and their neighbors who were potentially looking or planning to migrate. They also indicated that currently there were 248 persons (female 136 persons) in migration; the number of migration reduced compared to data in training and research in January 2015.

Based on the above findings the study puts forward to keep migration rate reduced further and/or to stop illegal migration and to reach the safe migration for MRW, more intervention supports from the Project are needed:

Information campaigns on safe migration should be a continuous process and should be carried out on a wider scale more frequently. Community level program should be designed which will create mass awareness through the capacity building of community leaders. More information campaigns through the mass media such as drama, storytelling, and role play are also required. The project should continue to disseminate the safe migration message with the collaboration with other government departments or NGOs to avoid the overlapping.

The project should continue to provide a new agriculture technical which is respond to climate change adaptation because environmental factors also do play a role in human mobility; it affects nearly all aspects of food security—from production and availability, and the stability of food supplies. On top of that, these villagers still need more new agricultural supports for vegetable and animal growing, and input supports in terms of vegetable, fruit tree and animal breed.

Engage men, boys, and other power holders in efforts to advance women's empowerment and sustainable agriculture which will ensure long-term benefits for women, their households and communities.

Continue to build the capacity and understanding of related government departments, local authority and other potential power holders on the legal and safe migration so that they will be able to continue disseminate this information to community people, prepare an action plan to intervene on people who desire to migrate and/or encounter problem during migration, meet regularly to follow up and report the result. On the other hand, the project should advocate with local authority to invest in rural infrastructure beyond agriculture, including water and sanitation services, to reduce burdens on women's time, and increase their health and well-being to enable improved livelihoods.

## Introduction

### I. Background



Cambodia has made significant economic progress in recent years, with an accompanying decline in overall poverty rates. However, the benefits of this economic development have yet to reach a majority of the rural population, in particularly rural women. CARE has worked for over ten years in Koh Kong province to address the underlying causes of poverty affecting marginalised rural women (MRW) and to improve their economic opportunities.

Drawing on this experience, and building on the recently completed Young Women In Business (YWIB) project, CARE, with funding (AUD 1,291,548) from the Australian government through the Australia NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), commenced the Local Economic Leadership for Marginalised Rural Women (LEL) project. The project focuses on strengthening economic empowerment and voice for MRW through enhanced livelihood options and economic leadership roles at local levels. The project duration is from March 2014 to June 2017, with partners from government (Provincial Department of Women's Affairs, Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, District Governors and Commune Councils) and civil society (a local NGO to be identified).

### II. Project Objective

The overall purpose of the project is to achieve better participation and valuing of rural women in higher value jobs through their participation in higher-level economic roles. The project's objectives are:

- MRW have increased benefits from elevated livelihood options
- Better valuing of elevated economic opportunities for rural women
- Stronger learning, evidence and national influence

### III. Project location

LEL is being implemented in a total of 28 villages in 8 communes within Sre Ambel and Botum Sakor districts of in Koh Kong province, for all community level interventions and provincial level capacity building and dialogue (Annex 1). Engagement in national level dialogue will take place in Phnom Penh.

### IV. Develop Safe Migration Approach

Migration can be an empowering experience for women, creating jobs and income, opening up opportunities for choices and independence. Women learn valuable skills, knowledge, ideas and values that can also be transferred to their community. Despite the benefits, many women migrant workers end up in unregulated workplaces in the informal economy, in domestic work, hospitality, entertainment and manufacturing sectors.



Therefore, to start up compiling information to develop a safe Migration Approach for MRW, the project has passed three phases such as 1) organising a TOT training, together with discussion meeting, with related government department from PDoWA, PDoV, DDoWA, district authority; 2) committing a full day long of safe migration awareness and research at all 28 villages where participants were Satrey Dekneam Kaksethan (SDK) or Women demonstration farmers, farmer interest group (FIG), community people who experienced in migration or their family member in migration, and local authority; and 3) Monitoring/follow up around Migration situation after the Awareness and Research on Migration has been conducted in all the project coverage area.



The information from the above three activities is compiled within this document, in support of developing an approach to promote safe migration for project's target beneficiaries and community people. The undertaken to develop Safe Migration Approach is only in the project coverage area, 28 villages in 8 communes of Sre Ambel and Botum Sakor districts.

## V. Methodology

The methodology used for the Safe Migration Approach included a desk review of safe migration intervention from other agencies and, as the entry point is to review relevant from SMART project as the secondary data sources and collection of primary data through meeting with relevant government department, organising the awareness and research with community people and monitoring/follow up result after the awareness.

The Safe Migration TOT training and the Awareness and Research with community people were divided into two main parts as following:

- A. Gather information:** to collected information around migrants situation and migration flow among community people, as well as identified any intervention plan or activity of related respective government departments over the people who aim to migrate, or encounter problems during migration. This was done through probing question, experience sharing, and storytelling.
- B. Promote a safe migration among community people:** to provide option for community to choose between migrations or not through integrate option into the available viable livelihood work in the village; and if they choose to migrate then they had to understand how to migrate safety. This was done through probing question, experience sharing, storytelling, debating, film showing and group exercise.

The follow-up assessment was conducted at all target villages of LEL project where the Safe Migration Awareness and Research has been made. The questionnaires have orientation to all interviewees by using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies; it employs participatory tools and techniques for data gathering and analysis focus group discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interview.





TO PROMOTE SAFE MIGRATION FOR MARGINALISED RURAL WOMEN

# 1 **A BRIEF LOOK AT THE MIGRATION SITUATION WITHIN THE PROVINCE**

*The sums up data collected from the TOT training with related government departments and authority, plus the Safe Migration awareness and research with community people.*

## **An Overview of Migration within Koh Kong Province**

Koh Kong is situated in the coastal region, in the southwest of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The province relies economically on fishing, trade, and agriculture. This province is an area of high migration; a transit area for Cambodian migrants crossing the border to work in Thailand and other countries. There were also a lot of domestic people who have been migrated from the province.

According to the research with community people, by the end of December 2014 there were around 1,123 villagers, female 613 persons, who have migrated from 28 villages of LEL coverage area; within 8 communes of Sre Ambel and Botum Sakor districts. They're between 13 to 45 years old age.

### **1. Reasons for migrating**

When talking about why did people choose to migrate? Most villagers indicated several factor pushing people to migrate as following:

- Poor family condition and the desire or need to earn an income was the primary driving factor leading villager's decision to migrate. People said that the size of their family, with many members living hand-to-mouth, was one of the main reasons for migrating to earn income to support the family. It was common for one family member to be the provider for the entire family household for financially supporting.
- Family was in a very difficult circumstance that included death of a parent, illness, divorce or the lack of enough land for farming.

- A low personal educational ability and as a result, identified that jobs such as in a garment factory or as a waiter/waitress were the types of jobs they could get to earn a steady income.
- Lack of job opportunities in the community; work did not provide enough money to support them.
- Domestic violence and family conflict also forced them to migrate.
- Some people reported already having a friend or a family member that had moved to Phnom Penh or to Thailand to work. Some made statements like “everyone is doing it”.
- Few peoples described farming at homeland was hard and they wanted to experience “city life”.
- Climate change was likely to worsen and affects food and livelihood security of community people and also contributes to the movement of migrant in the purpose of searching for a better place to live and earn.

## 2. Kind of Migration and Income from Migration

Among those 1,123 migrants, the migrants who have been doing the short time or seasonal migration are much more than those who have did a long time migration; the majorities were women and girl.

The short time or seasonal migration normally lasts for 4 to 6 months period, during fruit or sugarcane or fishery harvesting. The sugarcane field is located in Sre Ambel district where fruit and fishery harvesting is in Thailand. Sugarcane field worker got around \$90 to \$120 or up to \$150 per month depend on their position/work, fruit picker and shrimp or crab peeling worker got around \$150 to \$200 per month. After the harvesting season gone, most of them return home, but also some of them continue to work in city or other province; they will return home during the rice cultivating season.

For long time migration, some people went to work in the factories within the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) at Koh Kong border and they could make from \$180 up to \$250, with an overtime payment, per month based on their role and position; some went to the city and other province such as Seim Reap, Sihanoukville and Banteay Meanchey province to worked as a construction worker, garment factory worker, waiter/waitress, housemaid, fisherman...etc., and their monthly salary/wage is from \$75 to \$150. Beside this, there were also most of them migrate to work as a fisherman, fish drying worker, shrimp peeling worker, fruit picker, housemaid and construction worker in Thailand; their monthly salary/wage was from \$150 to \$200 or up to \$300.

Those who worked in Thailand were rarely visit home, about 2 to 3 years long; but those who work in the SEZ, in the city or in other provinces they could visit their family during Khmer New Year or Phchum Ben Day. According to what community people shared during the Safe Migration Awareness and Research, those who have worked in Thailand do not send the money home regularly differed from those who worked in the country who could manage to send money home every month. When asking why workers in Thailand were unable to send money home so often? They said that most of those people worked as a fisherman, they moved from one place to another irregularly around 2 to 3 months and, on the other hand the employers did not pay them salary until they get back to the shore; there were also some of them who were cheated by their boss.

### 3. Migration System and Pathway

There were two systems used for migrants from the province, legal and illegal migration. Migrants who migrated legally from Koh Kong were mostly fled to work in Malaysia or Korea, but those who worked in Thailand were mostly went go by illegally.

Illegal migrants crossed borders without a passport or a cross border permit, or crossed with a passport/permit but without permission to work in Thailand. In some cases, this occurred with the collusion of the broker or with companies the migrants were contracted to work. They choose illegally migration because it was difficult to obtained proper legal documents—as the fees for a passport were high and took much time. On the other hand, the people got their passport it did not mean that they will get a job right away. Normally, broker charged from migrants around \$215 per person; from sending migrant cross the border until they could get the job. Most of migrants were using debt to pay for broker. They migrated through brokers in groups at night. However, crossing the Thai border at night was increasingly dangerous. Risks included being shot by the Thai authorities and, once in Thailand, migrants were exposed to the risk of being arrested by the police, being raped, detained or enslaved.

#### Case Study

*An old man in Klong village, Sre Ambel district shared the miserable experience working illegally in Thailand as a rubber plantation worker in the last five years. He had to borrow the money to pay for the broker, around \$150 at that time. The broker transmitted him and another peoples through the pathway near the border at night time. In Thailand, he had to face with insecurity all time. He became malnourished and had to work overtime. He decided to escape from that place because the employer did not give him the full salary and also threatened to claim the police if he still asked for the money again. Finally he decided to leave. He had to travel difficulty until reaching the new place and worked as a fisherman; he could not go back home without money because he was in a heavy debt. His new work was more seriously than the old place, he had to work on the ship most of the time no matter it was rain or storm; hence, he decided to end up by jumping into the sea to escape to the border. He decided to get back home because he could not risk his life in Thailand anymore. He said he would never go there again.*

However, not all migrants who were successful in their migration have migrated legally. When illegal migrants return to the community and have still been successful in their migration, this then encourages others to make unsafe migration choices.

### 4. Risk Taking

Commonly, outcomes of successful migration were beginning to be seen through the rebuilding of homes; bought a new motor, land, cow, buffalo, and was able to started/or expanded business, and reached a better living situation. The visibility of material possession and evidence of successful migration was motivation for others in the community to migrate.

However, not all migrants were successful with their movement. During the Safe Migration Awareness and Research, participants said that there were also most of migrants who encountered a lot of problems working in the city or in other countries and they brought nothing home except their

illness and debt, some of them became mad after getting back home. Their family's situation was also getting worst since they could not find money as what they expected.

Most villagers who experienced awfulness from migration told that some migrants being cheated and/or being trafficked, being put into harsh working conditions, being put in jail, being sick and die, facing with sex abuse and got the sexual transmission diseases or HIV, being stolen wages and some become a drug addicting; their life was 'slave-like conditions. The serious case was some children lost opportunity to learn because they had to move from one place to another follow their parents; some became a beggar, theft, drug addicts, disability or die. The discussions also found out that most vulnerable person who got suffer from migration were women and children.

The attraction to migration was often based on unrealistic expectations about what the experience of the migrant will be like and how successful they will be. Without being well informed on some of the risks and dangers of migration means there was increased vulnerability to trafficking and less likelihood of financial achievement. Unsuccessful migrants and/or victims of trafficking were likely to faced stigma when returning home and were therefore less likely to share their experience, which was where awareness raising and safe migration messaging plays an imperative role. It was essential for community members to have access to safe migration messaging so that they could understand the risks of unsafe and illegal migration and was able to make well informed decisions for their migration. However, the migrants who have been working in the SEZ at Koh Kong at Thai border were less likely faced with the above problems.

## 5. Report about the Risk

When asking what have the migrants been doing after facing with problem? Most responders said some migrants called to their family and claimed the case to the authority, as well as seeking for help from relevant government departments and other NGOs. When they returned, relevant government or NGO's staffs transferred them from the border to their province or to vocational training center of those respective departments.

There were also some of them who did not know how to do and continued to work there secretly and endured with that vulnerability or tried to escape from one place to another without getting in touch with their family, that why participants said some family lost contact with their relative who have been migrated to Thailand.

## 6. Intervention from the Authority

For the intervention activity from commune authority, they claimed that there was no proper intervention plan/activity or respondent mechanism in place because migration was not included in the commune investment plan or was not listed as an emergency or priority activity to deal with. What they been doing was working with the victim's family to informed or claimed the case to commune or district level and passing the information to relevant government departments and other NGOs. Village leaders said that most villagers did not inform them when leaving; but if they did, then the authority would be able to help them searching for the legal recruitment agency or provide relevant important information or telephone/hot line number to them. However, the authority



encouraged villagers to do the legal migration because it helped to minimise and mitigate risk; however, there was also no reporting system around migration within authority line.

For the related government departments, there was an office in which responded for migration in the provincial hall; helped to send back migrant who has sent back from Thailand and transferred to their province. Provincial Department of Labor had a vocational training center to train all people, not focus on migration skill but it was workable if migrants used that skill to work elsewhere. The department put an entrance office at the border to help illegal migrants complete their legal document to work in Thailand but not so many migrants came for the services. To deal with this, they moved the office into Thai province, Klong Yai commune to access illegal Cambodia's migrants there. Director of Law office of Provincial Department of Women Affair shared her experience said that her department has only reporting and transferring activity; they reported the case to other relevant NGOs or the provincial hall and sending migrants to their province. She shared her experience sending three migrants to work in Malaysia through a recruiting company. But finally, she decided to take back those women because the situation was unlike what they were expected. She said that all migrants had to pass the three months training with that company before flying to Malaysia. They had to stay in the training center the full three months; that place was similar to jail, so tiny and dirty and the role was very strict. Some people escaped from that place by jumping from the window because they could not endure with such a situation. On the other hand, there were a lot of bad cases from migrants who worked in Malaysia. Since then, she always discouraged people who wished to work in Malaysia.

## 2 PROMOTE SAFE MIGRATION AMONG RURAL WOMEN AND COMMUNITY PEOPLE

*The Safe Migration Awareness and Research with community people*

### 1. An Overview

A village-based awareness and research on Safe Migration has been organised a full day long at all the project target villages. The training was joined facilitated by PDoWA staffs, DDoWA staffs, project staffs and district authority. The participants were SDK, FIG, their family member, community people and local authority. Total participants attended the event were 639 people, female 611 persons.



The objective of the awareness was to:

- Promote safe migration among community people and marginalised rural women.

The expected outputs were to enable participants to:

- Make a better decision making over their livelihood option.
- Understand how to migrate safely from community

## 2. Economic analysis



It was exactly that nothing could stop people from migrating. However, to provided an option and leaded them start thinking deeper about the benefit or loss of migration, participants analyse the cost and benefit of migration balance with money earn from domestic work. Participants worked into group to calculate income and expense they had made from migration compare with an income they could effort in the village.

Here below the result from the cost and benefit calculation:

Description	Kind of employment/work	Total monthly income (lump sum)	Total monthly expense (lump sum)	Total remaining
Work at abroad	Construction worker, fisherman, fruit picker, housemaid...	\$260	\$218	\$42
Work in the Phnom Penh city or in other provinces	Construction worker, waiter, fisherman, housemaid...	\$170	\$130	\$40
Work in the SEZ and sugarcane field	Factory worker, construction worker, Sugar cane plantation worker	\$2000	\$150	\$50
Work in the village	Agriculture and poultry producing, fishing	\$200	\$150	\$50

After the exercise, participants could realise how much of the amount of remaining money they could make every month. The exercise helped them to considered and decided if doing migration or staying in the village. From the exercise, participants were also aware that agriculture work was part of a main livelihood option in which they could rely on it. Participants said this exercise was a bit difficult for them because they had to do the calculation, but that was not a problem because everyone could calculate the money. They also added this exercise let them think thoroughly if choosing migrates or not.

### Case Study

*Participants from Trapang Kondol village in Chikhor Leu commune, Sre Ambel district said that the villagers could not do farming because of the poor water system and some areas are dry unfertilised land. Another participant in Chitresh village of Botum Sakor district said that being a worker in sugarcane plantation they had to work hard and earn less; only \$3 to \$5 per day. They had to work in the field full day; no time to cared the poultry or crops, that why their agriculture work always get worse. Moreover, they could not rely on wage from the sugarcane field because they needed a lot of money to spend for transportation, household need and daily consumption. Hence, they left home to work wherever they could make a lot of money.*

### 3. How to Plan a Safe Migration

There are plenty of reasons causing of people mobility. At least, before migrate they have to be aware and be ready to plan a safe migration. The safe migration planning consisted of setting migration goal, seek for an information related with legal recruiting agency, preparation for the safe migration, and how to seek for help/support whenever encounter problems.

In the session of setting a migration goal, villagers had been trained the way to set the clear objective/purpose of their migration, how long will they migrated in order to achieve those objective or expectation, and how to manage the money, from their salary/wage or overtime, to fulfilled their objective/expectation. They had also learnt about the preparation in the pre-departure step; villagers had to collected all relevant information of the destination clearly (where would they go and work, was it the safe place to go), the company recruiting them to be their workers ( where it operates the business legal or not), knowing their wage (how much they would get per month, whether there was any wage deduction per month, working condition, and what was the main expenditure per month), and they must remembered the phone number of that company for further communication, as well as hot line number in case they will facing with problem.

Before the session, the participants said searching for that information seemed to be difficult for them. But after the discussion, they came to realise that they had to consult or inform the local authority if they wished to migrate from the village. The authority could help them to search for that information and assisted them to prepare/process related documents, as well as keeping followed up and helped them if encountering any problem during migration.

Participants really benefit from the exercise since they have never noticed, nor did this before. It was very interesting and really important for them; as said, villagers and their family should prepare the migration plan carefully before leaving the village.

### 4. Film about the Migration

A movie about migration and migrant situation was displayed within the training. It was about the real story of a Khmer girl who was underage, falsified her documents to get a chance to work in Malaysia with hoping of being able to make a sum of money for building a house as a starting point for her dream to build her warm family in the future. The girl in the movie was being identified as Saray. While in Malaysia, she was vulnerable, being mistreated, she was about to be raped, and her travel documents were being confiscated.



The situation was that she had no money at all, she was miserable to find way coming back home. Finally, she was lucky that she got help from someone and she could come back home. Her dream of earning money for building her family through working abroad was failed.



Participants were really interested with the movie; it was very similar to what participants have found out and learnt from the awareness, as well as experienced by some participants or their relative, neighbor and friend. After the movie, most participants expressed their scary feeling of sending relative, especially women and girl to migrate for work illegally or without sufficient information as it were risky.

## 5. Gender and Migration

The last activity was to reflect on people's mindset over gender and migration; this was done through dialogued over some statements and participants thoroughly discussed based on their own perception and experience.

The statements were:

- Women who migrate away from home are worthless.
- Parents should not allow daughter to migrate.
- Men should migrate but women should not do it.
- The only way to improve living standard is doing migration.

After the dialogue, participants could reflect how people expected between women's livelihood and occupational choices. Most of participants supported for women migration even though they realised that women were mainly vulnerable to gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation at the hands of recruiters and others; on the other hand, when more and more women enter the market for paid work, they carry with them the value and stigma placed upon them by the gender division of labor, regardless of the nature of the work they do. They also found that women and men faced different choices, had access to different opportunities and faced different challenges due to pervasive gender stereotypes during migration-before departure, during transit, at destination country and upon return. However, women workers contribute to the development of family and community with the remittances from their work. These monetary was used for food, housing, education and medical services — along with newly acquired skills of returnees, contribute to poverty reduction.

# 3 FINDINGS AFTER SAFE MIGRATION AWARENESS AND RESEARCH

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*Result from the monitoring/follow up after the safe migration awareness and research at community level*

## 1. Assessment objectives

Specific objectives of assessment were:

- Identified any change of migration situation among community people after they had joint the awareness event, as well as finding out how livelihood intervention activities in intergraded farming from CARE affected to the migration of villager.

- Identified any change in attitude of villager in making contact with the authorities before doing migration.
- Identified any possible intervention activity from authority over villagers who wish to migrate or encounter problems during migration.

## 2. Methodology

The follow up assessment was conducted between 15 March and 5 April, 2015 in all target villages of project coverage area. The data collectors/interviewees were from PDoWA, DDoWA, District Chief of DDoA and Deputy District Governor. The questionnaires had been orientated to all interviewees by using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies; it employed participatory tools and techniques for data gathering and analysis focus group discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interview (KII).

### Focus Group Discussion(FGD)

In total there were 163 villagers joining all of the 66 FGDs. Majorities of them were female with the age range from 17-58. The villagers choose for interview as FGD were 7-8 peoples who have attended the migration training in January in each village.

### Key Informant Interview(KII)

The village leader of each target villages selected for the follow up assessment was selected for the KII; we did not select the Commune Council to joint with interview because they were did not attend in last safe migration awareness and research activity.

## 3. Key Findings of the assessment

### Description of the Knowledge Learned

This section describes what these beneficiary groups recalled the knowledge they have learned after they have been trained by the Project. These villagers began to describe further on knowledge related to Safe Migration and began to compare the situation of working at home and working abroad. This was done through a powerful tool that is called Economic Analysis. This tool was used to demonstrate the pro and con of being migrated to work abroad or outside the community versus working at home. By running this tool, they realised that working at home is more advantage than going to work abroad or outside the village. There are 33 answers describing that they remembered this tool.

However, if people still want to go and sell their labor abroad or outside the village they must not migrate with uncertainty. They must have a concrete plan to ensure they will be in Safe Migration. There are 13 answers mentioned about this.

To plan a Safe Migration, some important external information to collect was to know the destination (where they will go and work) clearly, know the location, is it the safe place to go. Furthermore, they must know the company recruiting them to be their workers where it operates the business legal or not. Then they must know their wage (how much they will get per month, whether there is any wage

deduction per month, and what the main expenditure per month is). On top of that they must know the phone number of that company for further communication. There are 50 answers for this part.

To plan for a Safe Migration, people also have to look at their internal factor. This is about travel documents. They must be able to identify that what kind of documents are need to apply for a passport. Once, getting a passport, they must know what kind of documents they must take with them when doing Safe Migration internationally. There are 27 answers talking about preparing travel documents as part of the Safe Migration.

Part planning a Safe Migration is to consult with authorities and/or inform them before leaving the village. Further than that, if facing any abuse when staying abroad they must know how to report the authorities. They must know the Embassy phone number and the way to report the abuse. An alien worker must know how to keep those important phone numbers safely to use in case of emergency. There are 38 answers concerning informing authorities before migration and reporting authorities in case of abuse or emergency.

### **Applying the knowledge learned**

All villagers joining the FGDs indicated that they applied the knowledge related to safe migration that they have learned from the awareness and research provided by the Project by using the same method. They either shared or told their family members (husband, children), relatives, and neighbors about the migration. Each of them reported that they have shared the knowledge to only few or several people. The issue here was that we did not know how many times had they talked about migration issues to these people, and in what way have they communicated (formal gathering, house-to-house visit, though informal interaction and so on). It was difficult to assess the effectiveness of this mode of communication, and we had no information in terms of how many people in each of the village have benefited from this mode of knowledge sharing.

The nature of sharing the knowledge to other people began with talking about issues faced by an illegal migrant that includes being cheated, mistreated, money extorted, being arrested and put in jail, come home with empty handed, drug addiction, sick and/or died without reason. These are examples using for discouraging not to do international migration. Then, they followed with the economic analysis to let people see the real situation better. After that they told people to do certain things if, at any rate, these people need to migrate abroad.

**Observation 1:** *this could be a good way to start spreading information by word of mouth begins from small group to reach out to larger group with the fact that one person who gets the information must at least share the information to 3 or 4 people, then each of these 3 or 4 people started to further spreading to 3 or 4 more people so that at the final stage, all villagers were reached out. However, there must be a mechanism in place to ensure from one person to another, the information will not be lost.*

*This was also a success of the Project that all of the villagers joining the FGDs reported that they have used the knowledge in relations to Safe Migration by sharing with their respective family members and their respective neighbors. The Project may invested more resources for further promoting this practice*

*to be a culture of communication among all villagers in the target areas. But there must be a good mechanism in monitoring the effectiveness of the method.*

### **Outcomes from the knowledge sharing**

All villagers joining all of the 66 FGDs have indicated that they have shared their knowledge on Safe Migration to their family members and neighbors. And from their (villagers joining the FGDs) opinions, villagers (general people in each of their community) have understood better the Unsafe Migration issue. They have much knowledge on problems faced by an international migration than before. So, they did not take risk; they consulted or discussed with other people when they wanted to migrate. Furthermore, they knew the advantage between Safe and Unsafe Migration. Majority of them were discouraged from doing illegal migration. These villagers began changing their attitudes by talking and/or consulting with others in case they wanted to migrate. In general, all of those joining the FGDs have strongly asserted that cases of illegal migration in their respective villages have decreased remarkably.

For those people who stopped doing Unsafe Migration, they normally have two choices for their alternative livelihood activities. These are 1) doing agriculture by either raising animals or growing vegetable or both by applying the new agricultural technologies that the Project has brought to them (all of those joining the FGDs indicated that doing agriculture in this way to earn a reasonable income that can sustain their daily lives. They further indicated that the incomes from selling animals and vegetable are even higher than the money people can earn from selling their labor abroad). This can be proofed through the tool called Economic Analysis; and 2) find jobs domestically (at the provincial town and at other places in the country).

**Observation 2:** *It would be more important if we can hear that now, at least, most of villagers who want to migrate always seek for advice from the authorities. Maybe this is the point that the Project should find the way to improve the authorities' capacity to be effective service providers. To be effective service providers, authorities should be resourceful person. So, they must know well the most up-to-date information of the workforce market inside and outside of the country, they must have the information related to all companies who operated their business legally that potentially looking for workers, and the authorities must know how to communicate with villagers in a constructive way.*

**Observation 3:** *According to the result of the FGD the Economic Analysis tool is powerful in convincing people that to migrate abroad for selling their labor cannot earn much compared to working at home. Therefore, all of the women direct beneficiaries and the authorities must know this tool well enough so that it will be easy for them to demonstrate to other villagers who are still not fully trust that Safe Migration, and working at home is better than doing Unsafe Migration.*

### **The family members of villagers joining the FGDs do migration**

Out of the 66 FGDs, only 39 FGDs of 22 villages reported that their family members have migrated (domestic and across the border) during the period of January 2015 to the date of the follow up assessment taking place. If we the head count, the total number is 113 people.

**Observation 4:** *For the next activity, it is useful to follow up whether these numbers of migration reduced. Also, it is important to know why do these family members chose to migrate rather than raising animal and growing vegetable in their villages. This information is useful for the Project to identify the effectiveness of its interventions. The list of migration should include name, age, gender, mode of migration (safe or unsafe migration), destination, type of work, reason for migration, and longtime or short time. This information can tell the project a better idea for the next stage of intervention (whether to continue the focus on Safe Migration Awareness Raising or whether to shift to a new focus)*

### **List of Migration from January 2015 by Each Village (Authorities)**

Each Village Leader interviewed has given the figures about the number of villagers in their respective village doing migration from January 2015 to the date of this follow up assessment taking place. According to their report, there are 248 people (female 136 persons) are in migration. The authorities reported that this statistic reflects those who migrated safely (legally) which means the authorities are informed before those people doing migration. Authority said that only legal migrants do inform them when they leave the village because they need the authority to sign on their document. The statistic provided by authorities indicating two types of migration – short time and longtime migration. If we further study this statistic by looking at longtime compared to short time migration, we can see that the short time migration is outnumbered by the longtime migration 175 versus 69. This is one of the indicators indicating how effective the Project is in promoting Safe Migration to these villagers.

The static informs that villagers in the target villages are more aware about Safe Migration. They have changed their attitude toward Unsafe Migration. This point reflects to the account reported by beneficiary groups who joined these FGDs. The beneficiary groups mentioned that people started changing their attitudes toward illegal migration after they have learned so many things related safe versus unsafe migration. These beneficiary groups have further explained that if there are jobs available locally, they themselves and people in their respective communities will not migrate abroad as they know through the economic analysis that working at home is much better than going abroad where they face hardship (being mistreated, cheated, being trafficked and so on) where working at home they can save more money and be safe.

Among those migrants, in total there are more women than men doing Safe Migration. This is normal as most of the women migrated to work in different factories in other provinces and in Phnom Penh. However, it is still important for the project to follow up and see the wellbeing of these women, in particular.

### **Reporting/informing authorities before migration**

Regarding the general situation of the migration, 14 FGDs said that those villagers who were on migration reported/informed the authorities before leaving their villages. When informing the authorities, generally people asked authorities about the place where they will migrate to, and they also asked about the wage/salary they will receive. Furthermore, villagers asked for advice from the authorities in terms of the process for doing safe migration. Link to this the authorities always tell them to call back when arriving the destination. The authorities also take the opportunity in

encouraging them to do safe migration, and also providing moral support, how to avoid being cheated, and how to seek for help when in danger.

**Observation 5:** *This is a good starting point to encourage more open discussion on migration issues between villagers and authorities. If this process can be documented clearly, it can serve as the model for promoting villagers to report/inform authorities before doing migration. To encourage more villagers informing authorities before doing migration, the project and authorities should consider inviting those who have informed authorities to share their experience to other villagers during the meeting. The information for sharing can focus on the benefit of informing the authorities.*

### Reasons for not reporting/informing authorities prior to migration

Out of the 66 FGDs, 48 FGDs indicated that villagers did not inform authorities before doing migration. This rate is a concern for both the Project and the authorities. If this situation does not improve, it is difficult to control or monitor the migration situation. Generally speaking, reporting to authorities before doing migration remains suspicious among villagers. They do not feel comfortable to talk to authorities as they may be under fire, they do not feel they get any kind of support when reporting to authorities. In short, they are afraid to report authorities. There are different reasons why villagers did not inform authorities before doing migration. The answers can be classified into 9 groups as below:

- **Friends.** There are 14 answers in this category. They did not inform the authorities as they knew the destination where they migrated to very well; they followed their friends, their neighbors and the people they knew who have already been and worked in that certain place.

**Observation 6:** *Though, migrating through this channel believes to be less dangerous, it is still important for them to inform the authorities before leaving the village. On the other hand, those migrant workers who came back home should be encouraged to report to authorities, share their experience with authorities and with other villagers about their situation while being as an alien workers in other country. This activity should be regarded as one part of the mechanism for controlling the migration.*

- **Not trust the authorities.** There are 13 answers tallied in this category. People mentioned that they did not believe that authorities can do anything to help them when they are in trouble. They did not feel confident that authorities will care about their wellbeing. On the other hand, they had a strong feeling that authorities might stop or prohibit them from doing migration. Other elements under this category are that people did not realise that they have to report to authorities, and they did not know the process on how to inform authorities about migration.

**Observation 7:** *This is a strong message indicating a weak relationship between villagers and Village Leader. If possible, there must be an effort promoting effective communication between villagers and authorities. This process can be started by talking to both sides to find out the obstacle hindering or discouraging communication between villagers and authorities from the past, and ask them what actions should be taken for improving this communication process so that both sides feel comfortable to openly talk to each other in terms of migration issues.*



- **Trust a broker.** There are 13 answers for this group. People said that a broker would not cheat them and going through a broker, they can get a job quickly. On the other hand, they had no choice as to follow the channel of safe migration it is difficult as it took time and cost much money (about \$300 for passport fee) where they found it difficult to afford for it.

***Observation 8:** What is the best way to prevent a broker from sneaking into a village without the knowledge of the authorities? The measure to prevent a broker from being illegally getting into the village for worker recruitment should be considered as one part of the mechanism for controlling illegal migration. This should be considered as another element of the mechanism for effectively controlling the migration situation in each village.*

***Observation 9:** The answers among these three groups are very important for designing the Project interventions. The Project and authorities should find ways to discourage people from migration through broker, friend, and people they know. On the other hand it may be best to look for win-win solution. For instance, the Project may try to reach out to those brokers by having them to be the Project partners so that we can control the migration.*

***Observation 10:** We have to find ways improving relationship between villagers and a Village Leader. According to the data from the FGDs, villagers do not feel comfortable to talk to a Village Leader as most of the time a Village Leader put the blame on them. Maybe, a Village Leader should change their attitude by not using power but using a soft way like counseling technique when talking to villagers in terms of illegal migration.*

***Observation 11:** The FGDs data also indicates that a Village Leader is important for all villagers in terms of providing advice, migration related information, and processing document for legal migration. Commune Council may not so important for villagers to talk to but is important for giving backstopping support to a Villager Leader in dealing with the migration issues.*

- **Doing the Domestic migration.** There 8 answers falling into this category. The justification is that it is not necessary reporting authorities for domestic migration as they were not leaving the country. Actually, their justification does not correct. By law, authorities have the administrative power to be informed of the people movement. No matter people are migrating domestic or across the border, it is an obligation of villagers to report the authorities. There is a need to promote more awareness among villagers about their legal obligation in reporting authorities about their movement (migration).
- **Face no problem in illegal migration.** There 5 answers falling into this category. They said that they chose to do this because they used to migrate illegally for many times, and face no hardship, no abuse, and no other problems. So, they keep going with their lucks.
- **No actual reason.**
  - There are 3 answers mentioned that People gave no reason for not informing authorities on migration.
  - The answers are 3 answers mentioned that the family are poor and are in debt. If reporting to authorities other people (including their creditors) would find out and might stop them from migration. Therefore, they have to quietly leaving the village (especially at night) so that nobody will stop them.



- The answers are 2 answers mentioned that not reporting to authorities as they have migrated long ago (not coming back yet).
- The answers are also 2 answers mentioned that they are not sure about the reason why people did not reporting to authorities on migration.

**Observation 12:** *It may be important for the Project to group those doing migration (legal or illegal) by wealth status. In line with this, the project beneficiaries should classify by wealth group as well. This is important for prioritising for any future intervention. For instance, upon knowing which wealth group doing more migration and the reason to migrate, it is easy to identify and intervention method to suite to their real need.*

### **What, actually, authorities have done to help people when they have problems?**

Authorities have mentioned what they have done to help villagers who faced problems when doing migration by two main actions, proactive and reactive.

**Action 1: Proactive:** There are two sub-groups falling into this proactive action:

- **Sub-action 1: Awareness raising:** There are 6 answers belongs to this sub-group. Relating to this activity, one authority has mentioned that he has joining the awareness raising campaign for the period of 2 months (no further detail information on how to conduct the campaign, who have participated, who provided financial and technical supports, how many people were reached out) together with the Commune Councils. Other authority has also mentioned about joining the CARE activity in awareness raising (no further information on when and how). In the awareness raising, they covered migration and health issues.
- **Sub-action 2: Giving advice.** The second sub-group in this category is about advising villagers on Safe Migration and the pros and cons of being migrate and not being migrated. In this sense, authorities used to discourage people not to migrate by explaining to them how difficulty an alien worker faced; they encouraged villagers to look for a job at home (growing animals and vegetable) rather than migrating abroad. If the villager still needed to do migration authorities encouraged them to follow the Safe Migration channel, provided the phone numbers of those companies operating their business legally to those villagers, advised those villagers on how to cope with problems in terms of where to get help (how to contact authorities and the Embassy). There are 16 answers in this sub-group.

At the end of the day, one authority mentioned that no matter how much his efforts have punt into persuading them not to migrate; the poverty forced them to migrate. Related to this matter, other authority mentioned that some villagers reacted that there is no intervention (supports) on their livelihood activity (no source of income), how can they stay in the village; the last choice for these people is to migrate for the hope of getting money for their daily food.

**Observation 15:** *There is no date indicating when these villagers mentioned about no outside intervention on their livelihoods. Whether this happened before the Project interventions or it happened before that. If this happened after the Project entered into their villages, we may have to find out how the Project can do more to reach out to wider beneficiaries.*

**Action 2: Reactive approach.** One authority has mentioned of his achievement in cooperation with Commune Councils to help 18 villagers who were stranded (being cheated by a broker) in Thailand in 2013 to take them back home. Five other authorities reacted by saying that they could not do anything yet as there was no any problem happened or no one has requesting them for intervention; s So, no action. Another authority mentioned that he has not yet understood much about the migration issue and the process to intervene when people report about problems. He will try to learn more and be more active to deal with this issue.

**Observation 16:** *Though there is no proper mechanism in each village for controlling migration situation, most of the authorities have already showed their commitment in putting the situation in control by encouraging more villagers to inform and/or seek advice from them in migration issues. This is a good point to build on in helping these authorities to be more efficient in perform this task.*

### More Project interventions

The follow up assessment also tried to find out whether it's previous and current interventions are sufficient for minimising and/or stopping Illegal (Unsafe) Migration. In general, both beneficiary groups and authorities expressed that the previous and current Project Interventions are not enough yet. In short, both parties agreed that the Project to provide more supports in Safe Migration Awareness Raising among all villagers, and more inputs and more agricultural technical supports are necessary to continue and intensify.

**Table 1: Requests for the Project to do by villagers and authorities**

Requests put forward by villagers	Request put forwards by authorities
<b>Support in agricultural inputs</b> There are 45 answers fall into this category. Majority, villagers requested for the supports of vegetable seeds and animals (pig and chicken) for growing. If we go through the list further, it covers the requests to renovate or build infrastructure, i.e. build a dam and waterway to prevent salt water intrusion so that people will have sufficient water for growing vegetable and watering their animals, especially in dry season; well for both domestic consumption and for vegetable gardening; support in water tank and install the infrastructure for domestic water supply; need to support in latrine; renovate a canal for fishing; and to establish a community for buying the community agricultural and fishery products.	
<b>Need more new agricultural techniques.</b> There are 18 answers fall into this category. Generally, this category is about the requests for more training on agricultural or other skills people can utilise for generating household incomes. Some of the requests are about vegetable and animals growing techniques,	<b>Agricultural technical training support</b> There are 13 answers for this category. Generally, authorities requested the Project to provide villagers with new agricultural techniques (animal raising, vegetable gardening, rice cultivation and mushroom growing skills). After all, they requested that

<p>others are about rice cultivation and chemical fertiliser application skills. Other requests are very general (life skills, more skills, more training) where is worth to validate these request with villagers to ensure their real need.</p>	<p>the Project to find a market for selling the products. These supports should be continued, there is no information for how long the Project should continue to provide such supports to villagers.</p>
<p><b>Safe Migration awareness raising</b> There are 28 answers fall into this category. They requested that the Project and authorities to continue organising awareness raising related to Safe Migration. The event should be conducted more frequently so that villagers will not forget. This category also covers the provision of information about a company recruiting workers to villagers as well.</p>	<p><b>Continue Safe Migration awareness raising support.</b> There are 15 answers fall into this category. It is important that the Project to continue the financial and technical supports to authorities in organising a campaign on Safe Migration awareness raising. The event should also cover the topic about the explanation of all laws related to migration, how to prepare documents for Safe Migration, introducing a company recruiting workers to villagers. The campaign should be organised more frequently. In addition, the campaign should include about the necessity in reporting/informing about migration to authorities. They suggested that these topics should be included into the village meeting agenda, and the campaign should reach out to as many villagers as possible (if cannot cover all).</p>
<p><b>Investment (factory) in the village</b> There are only 6 answers fall into this category. Few people said that they want to see more jobs available locally. Therefore, if an investor can install a factory near to their village, they will have jobs, and they will not migrate.</p>	<p><b>Encourage investment locally</b> There are 5 answers fall into this category. The meaning is that people and authorities are more grateful if the Project can influence for local investment. For instance, they want to have a factory near their village so that people can get job at home, and the migration rate will be a lot less.</p>
<p><b>Others.</b> There are 3 answers for this category. Villagers have made it clear that it would be important if the Project has an authority to arrest and detain a broker to prevent villagers being cheated. And this would also contribute to the wiping out of illegal migration as well. Finally, it would be a big step forward if the Project can build the capacity of authorities on the area of how to control migration more effectively.</p>	<p><b>Others.</b> There are 2 answers fall into this category. The first answer requested that the Project tries to intervene by lobbying the government to reduce the passport fee. It was reported that previously to apply for a passport it cost about \$300. This is a huge cost for a poor villager, and this is one of the reasons that a poor villager has to migrate illegally as going through this channel it costs them arm and leg and also time consuming. The second answer requests that the Project assists in registering and controlling the migration. This is, perhaps, the authorities feel that they do not have enough resources and capacity to deal with this task. This request is a</p>

	little different from what villagers asked for – requesting the Project to build the capacity of authorities in setting up a mechanism for controlling migration.
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For planning the intervention, it is important that the Project validates this list with both villagers and authorities so that both sides agree on the activity prioritised. This can be done through the village meeting or other means as the Project see fit, then the need should be prioritised. **If possible, the Project should advocate having these intervention plan integrated into the Commune Investment Fund and request that each concerned commune allocate some of the funds for certain intervention activities.** This is one of the ways to ensure ownership of the planning and long sustainability of the activity.

## **Villagers - what authorities should do?**

### **Witnessing and advising**

There are 20 answers in this category. Villagers have made it clear that they want to report their migration to authorities and get paper for their formal approval. In doing so, villagers also want that authorities to give them good advice and/or constructive feedback on Safe Migration, and to discourage villagers from doing migration, how to seek help when under abuse, advise people not to let strangers (brokers) get into their village for worker recruitment without the knowledge of authorities.

***Observation 13:** The answers in this category seems hiding some agendas. For instance, it may not be easy for a villager to report/inform authorities about their migration. Authorities may not treat them well enough, that's why they were discouraged in reporting the matter. And finally, maybe authorities themselves tried not to be responsible in acknowledging that such villagers have taking permission from them for migration. Maybe the Project should investigate further to ensure authorities have the right/friendly attitudes when dealing with villagers on Safe Migration. Maybe it is worth considering building capacity of these authorities in terms of facilitation and counseling skills, so that they react the right way when villagers report and/or asking for advice on Safe Migration.*

### **Set rule for controlling migration**

In this category villagers joining the FGDs want that authorities creating a strong rule in minimising illegal migration. They said that authorities must be able to control the situation; they must have a mechanism in place for preventing villagers from doing migration without reporting to them. Authorities have also mentioned about this.

***Observation 14:** It may not be easy to have such measure in place as all villagers need to openly cooperate with authorities, and a Village Leader alone may not have sufficient resources and capacity to carry out this job. Local police is maybe the best entity to provide support for a village leader in starting this job. If it is in its project mandate, CARE may need to provide some necessary materials (may have to talk to the relevant parties to find out specific supports needed) supports to local police and village leader to carry out the job effectively. There are 4 answers in this category.*

### **Processing documents**

There are 25 answers under this category. People want that authorities should help villagers who want to migrate to prepare documents correctly for applying for passports. Further than that, authorities should tell villagers on what documents they must take with them for Safe Migration. Once finishing this step, authorities should facilitate in speeding up the document processing. Maybe authorities can only help processing the document at the local level. Relating to this, it is not clear that when local authorities help speeding up processing the documents it involves costing more money or not. If so, it would be a discouraging to villagers to follow the Safe Migration channel. Furthermore, when they apply for passports, it is out of the local authorities to speed up the process.

### **Dissemination**

There are 29 answers for this category. Majority is that people want authorities to continue raising awareness on issues related to migration. For instance, the topics for awareness raising include problems faced by illegal migrants who are alien works, not to trust people (broker) easily, must know the destination and wage clearly before doing migration, seek information about the company that recruiting works, and what to do for Safe Migration. They want that the campaign must reach villagers widely and it must going on very frequently.

### **Source of information**

There are 25 answers in this category. People wish that, from time to time, authorities should have updated information about those companies recruiting workers and doing business legally. They said that authorities must know which company is recruiting workers, are they operating their business legally, who are those companies, where are their respective factory locations, contact information of those companies. These information should disseminate to villagers widely.

### **Other**

The last category is very few. In total there are 9 answers. The first is about reporting suspected broker to local police, help villagers when they face hardship in migration, not being discriminate in helping villagers, create more jobs in the village, provide them with variety of life skills and provide moral support to those decide to continue their livelihood activities within the village, and encourage mother to send their children to school.

## **Authority-What authorities can do in promoting Safe Migration?**

The authorities have strongly indicated two main jobs they want or probably can do to encourage Safe Migration:

1. **Education:** to promote Safe Migration and/or discourage people from being migrated by either taking part or leading the role in awareness raising on Safe Migration, migration related issues, what to do and what information villagers need to know before migration, and other related topics. Relating to these authorities has indicated that they have already taking part in such campaigns but the activities were not reaching out to all villagers. Therefore, it is better to enhance the events and to carry out the campaigns more frequently. If such events keep quiet so long, it is not good as villagers tend to easily forget the information on Safe Migration. One point to note is that authorities need financial support to be able to implement this task. So, they

expressed that they are happy to continue their collaboration with NGOs (CARE) for continuing the Safe Migration awareness raising campaign so that all villagers are well informed about the issues.

2. **Setting and Implementing the Rules:** to spearhead in setting up a mechanism for controlling the migration activity. The elements in controlling the migration are to encourage villagers to report\inform authorities about their migration (domestic and abroad). In this case, authorities can check whether the people have sufficient documents for Safe Migration or not, help them processing the documents (if needed), give them advice on migration whether they know the destination and the company well enough, providing them with information concerning the company recruiting workers, how to prevent themselves from being cheated or being trafficked, suggesting to them the benefit of not migration, and asking them to call back reporting the situation. This mechanism is also important for authorities to intervene in case those migrants face problems in terms of being mistreated, work long hours, abuse and so on. In general, authorities said that if they can establish the effective mechanism for controlling migration, they would be able to give them advice on Safe Migration and probably reduce the number of illegal migration as well. Adding to that, villagers will be to get information about the company recruiting workers. However, this is not easy as most of the Village Leaders do not have network or not accessible to the source of information. Therefore, it is really a challenging task. Perhaps, the Project can try to work out the way to build a network or link local authorities to the national network on labor recruitment so that they get information of such company on time for sharing to their respective villagers. To be effective, the first and second tasks can happen in parallel with each other. The concern is that whether authorities have enough resources to do these tasks, and whether they can seek help from the outside.

## Conclusion and Recommendations

### Conclusion

During this period, the LEL project contributed to:

1. Building the capacity of related government department and local authorities to increase their capacity to deliver Safe Migration messages during the Awareness and Research to communities.
2. Conduct the Safe Migration Awareness and Research and spread the Safe Migration messages to community people.
3. Conduct the Safe Migration monitoring/follow up after the awareness and research with community and local authority

The results of the above activities indicate positive outcomes of the spreading safe migration message; promote safe migration among MRW and community people, intervention. Both the villagers and authorities, to some extent, agreed that villagers have learned and/or be more aware on migration issues. Though, the number of villagers reporting/informing and asking for advice from authorities before migration is not that high, it shows a good start indicating that villagers begin to change their attitudes toward Safe Migration.



The intervention by providing new agricultural technology to villagers proved successful as most villagers have opted the technology and put it into practice for their secondary livelihood activity where incomes from selling these agricultural products are crucial for sustaining their daily expenditure, not to mention the contribution to their domestic consumption.

Both villagers and authorities are happy with the Project intervention method, but they feel that the supports are not enough yet. They requested that the Project provides more support in reaching to all villagers about the promotion of Safe Migration. Furthermore, they requested that the awareness raising activity must be more frequent as people tend to forget things easily. For livelihood interventions, they need more agricultural training skills, they also need well for water to watering their animals and vegetable in the dry season.

Though, significant changes (number of villagers opted new agricultural techniques for their secondary livelihood activities) migration still remains the first choice for most villagers in looking for a better future. But to promote Safe Migration villagers want authorities, especially a Village Leader to play a role as a hub in providing supports to villagers for Safe Migration.

### Recommendation

Even though community people get a better knowledge and being well informed on how to migrate safely; the result from the above activities allows the project and relevant parties to prioritise the activities for the interventions to assure the community people, especially women be able to obtain the safe migration:

- ❖ **Widen the safe migration awareness:** Information campaigns on safe migration should be a continuous process and should be carried out on a wider scale more frequently. Community level program should be designed which will create mass awareness through the capacity building of community leaders. More information campaigns through the mass media such as drama, storytelling, and role play are also required. During the awareness, the project should promote villagers to report/inform authorities before doing migration, inviting migrant workers who came back home to share their experience, and inviting any villager who successfully adopted the new agricultural knowledge and skills for generating household incomes to share their experience in their success story; and periodically demonstrating the Economic Analysis tool to further ensuring that working at home has more advantage as this tool can give a concrete information for villagers to see the real situation. The project should continue to disseminate the safe migration message with the collaboration with other government department to avoid the overlapping.
- ❖ **Promoting intensified and sustainable agriculture:** continue to provide and agricultural training or other skills people can utilise for generating household incomes; practices to overcome environmental and climate challenges, improve the resiliency of women and their families and increase productivity. The project also partnerships with other government department or NGOs to identify practical and effective responses to climate change and food insecurity for rural women, their households and communities. On top of that, these villagers still need more new agricultural supports for vegetable and animal growing, and input supports in terms of vegetable, fruit tree and animal breed.



- ❖ **Engaging men and boys in the process of change:** using strategies to engage men, boys, and other power holders in efforts to advance women's empowerment and sustainable agriculture which will ensure long-term benefits for women, their households and communities.
- ❖ **Work and advocate with related respective government department and local authority:** to build the capacity and understanding of related government departments, local authority and other potential power holders on the legal and safe migration so that they will be able to continue disseminate this information to community people. Beside this, they should work together to prepare an action plan to intervene on people who desire to migrate and/or encounter problem during migration. The regular meeting should be conduct to follow up and report the result. On the other hand, the project should advocate with local authority to invest in rural infrastructure beyond agriculture, including water and sanitation services, to reduce burdens on women's time, and increase their health and well-being to enable improved livelihoods.

## Annex 1: LEL project sites in Koh Kong province

District	Commune	Village
SreAmbel	ChroySvay	Nesat
		Chroysvay lech
		Chroysvay keurt
		Phnom sraloa
		Saray
		Chheurneang
	BoeungPreav	Plorng
		Chroy
	Dong Peng	Ban teat
		PreahAngkeo
		Dong Peng
	SreAmbel	Veal thbong
		Veal chheurng
		Treak
		Klong
	Chi Khorleur	Trapeangkandol
		Chi khor
		Chhouk
	Chi Khorkrom	Khsachkrohom
		Ta baen
		PreakChik
Bottom Sakor	KanDol	Tom korn
		Kandol
		Pro lean
	An Dongtoek	Prai
		Chi tres
		Ta ok
		Pro teal
<b>2 districts</b>	<b>8 commune</b>	<b>28 villages</b>

## Annex 2: Reference Documents

1. The report of Safe Migration TOT training and discussion meeting among related government department and local authority, January 2015.



TOT-Safe  
Migration.docx

2. The report of Safe Migration Awareness and Research in the community level, February 2015.



Community  
training-Safe Migratio

3. The report of following up migration after the training, May 2015.



Follow up migration  
after the training-Mr.