



# PROGRESS REPORT

(Mar-May 2021)

**Project: Improve Water, sanitation and Hygiene in Western of Cambodia**

**(Pailin and Battambang province)**



**“Enable poor families to access clean water, sanitation and hygiene”**

Project funded by



Rotary Western Endeavour (Australia)

Jun-2021

## I. Introduction:

Cambodia is similar as other countries on the glob, it is well known of having negatively effecting by the novel Corona virus pandemic (Covid-19).

Covid-19 in Cambodia is spreading quickly. The number of new cases and death cases are rapidly increasing especially in the last few months. It was remembered that since the beginning of Covid-19 outbreak until Mar-2021 (At the time of proposed this project), only 470 accumulated cases and zero death were reported (Cambodia-Ministry of Health-Mar-2021). However, a couple month later, the number of Covid-19 are toll up to 38,969 new cases and 348 cases reported death (by Cambodia MOH-Jun 2021).

Cambodia ministry of health (MOH) has been putting many efforts to fight against Covid-19 spreading. Vaccinating, testing to identify new cases, lock-down of some villages, quarantine for suspect cases and provision therapy to the Covid-19 positive cases has been continuing.

Covid-19 outbreak in Cambodia has made many challenges. Public services including private services has temporally hold on or eventually lockdown. Hundred domestic and international flights are mostly cancelled. Thousands of national and international visitors are dramatically falling down, almost are null recording. Private schools, public schools, public gathering places such as resorts, hotels, markets, supermarkets, stores, leisure places, meeting, workshop, conferences, religious-cultural ceremonies, entertainments, music performances, national or international event are temporally shutting down.



(Public schools in CFS target is temporally closing due to Covid-19)



(some schools become quarantine place)

Bamboo hotel is a place where we used to stay is temporally closing down.



(CFS-photo, Bamboo-hotel, Pailin province)



(Some families that CFS used to help are locked down due to covid-19)

Villagers who are suspected of having Covid-19 are locking down at homes. Some business or livelihood income related activities are turned to be inactive during covid-19. Consequently, Covid-19 is pushing rural families to be more poor. Reality at CFS's targets, many rural poor are mostly depended on daily wage labor to get daily income to support family's members, but Covid-19 outbreak is keeping them at home with no or little income whilst the other needs of their family's members remained needed.

You see, while fathers are awaiting job opportunity, mothers had already lent money from their neighbors buying foods and cooking pots for family members. Since May 2020, Royal government of Cambodia provided approximately 230 Million USD to almost 700, 000 families who has affecting directly or indirectly due to Covid-19. It has been several months ago that some of rural poor are having difficulty with no income whatsoever. They are staying at home without paid or little paid. No one exactly knows when it will be last. Realize of such difficulty situation, hundreds of poor families had receiving foods assistance from CFS.



(CFS provided foods assistance to Poor)

Many rapporteurs had similarly ideas on negative economic impact due to Covid-19 pandemic. Global pandemic is a major cause pushing domestic product fall by 2.5% for developing countries and 1.8% for industrial countries. The declines are nearly 4% below the benchmark for the whole world. The declines are nearly twice as larger which is assumed to take longer (by ADB, Apr, 2020).

Covid-19 is aggravating poverty especially for rural people. Poverty and schools shutting down is leading to increase child-labor. Although we do not have an accurate number of child-labor arising in Cambodia but we believed that child-labor in Cambodia is increasing as other countries. ILO reported that the number of children selling labor has risen to 160 million worldwide. It is increasing 8.4 million in the last four years which we have never seen before. The report also stated that millions of children in poor family are getting more at risk due to impacts of Covid-19, (Jun 2021 by ILO and UNICEF).

Approximately 80% of the total Cambodian populations are living in rural areas. Most of them are totally depended on rainfall for agricultural productivity and usage in general. But seasonal variation is putting another difficulty for them. Practically, it was seen that water of some ponds or streams gradually seeped-out or eventually tried up during dry season. Shortage of water for domestic utilization, including sanitation and hygiene are at risk for their health while they are needing for more water for cleaning hand during Covid-19.

Water sanitation and hygiene at rural areas is need more consideration and improvement. Knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) for rural children and especially for domestic cleaning among rural parents is needing for improvement.



(Domestic hygiene need to be refined-CFS photo).



(CFS-Photo, May 2021)

Some rural children are practicing of open defecation. It seems like a social acceptable. It is bad practices and being risk for their health, therefore, more community and school education among parents and children is needed.

In addition, for some poor families, they don't have enough water containers for keeping water for utilization and drinking, therefore, providing big jar for water containers is the most useful for them.



(CFS-Photo)



(CFS-Photo)

Rural poor are using small plastic containers for placing water. They are carrying water from available sources as they found. Fortunately, for some families they are having bores-well near their houses, but some bores wells are broken and no fixed yet.

CFS has long experienced in working to improve rural water sanitation and hygiene. Practical implementation, CFS provided ongoing education, accompanying with material assistance including big jar (1800liters) for storage rainwater for drinking, water filters for filtration, toilet to end open defecation. Digging ponds, bore wells, fixed bore-well, school hand washing, school toilets, school water storage is particular implemented for the most needed families.

Realizing of the current needing among rural poor families, and committed to improve the situation, in Feb, 2021, Dr. ENG Samnang CFS director contacts his board Director, Dr Vincent Kean and Helen Kean in Perth-Australia to seek additional support to implement a small project to improving water sanitation at North-Western Cambodia, Pailin province.

Fortunately, by early Mar 2021, CFS was very grateful to receiving funding support from Rotary club of Western Endeavour-Australia to implement such proposed project:

## II. Proposed project:

### Project objective

- Helping rural poor families in a small remote village at Pailin province (Phnom Scrouk (Dey Kraham) village-Otavao-commune, Pailin district, Pailin province to enable them to access to a proper source of water, and increase practice of household sanitation and hygiene.

### Expected outputs:

- At the end of project cycle, from Mar to May 2021, there are
  - 10 home latrines will be completely built and correctly used
  - 26 water jars (1800 liters) will be installed for 26 families (each family will be received one).

### III. Project results:

Although we have faced some challenges during project implementation due to Covid-19, but we achieved project results as expected as in proposed project. It is meant that there are 10 home latrines completely built and correctly used. Each of family household getting one latrine. 26 water jars (1800 liters) are completely installed for 26 families (each family will be received one).



(Big jar-1800liters are given to family)



(Place before butting jar)



(The same family after jar placing)



A family house before placing jar)



(The same house after putting jar)

Within this project implementation, there are 26 big jars and 10 toilets had completely built. They are helping each other to build their latrines. Usually, CFS is encourage community parents to help each other.



(They are helping each other placing jar)



(They are helping each other to build their latrines)

Rural parents were very grateful to have your value support. They are smiling after their latrines completely built.



(CFS director, Dr. Samnang Visiting a family during project implementation)



(Thank you for helping us, a man said after their latrine built)

Rural parents were very grateful to have your value support. They are smiling after their latrines completely built.

On behalf of CFS-Director, Dr. ENG Samnang with all of my staff and especially rural poor families, we would like to extend our great thanks for your value support. We are looking forward to seeing you and bringing you all to see your donation results. We are expecting to receiving your very kind donation to enable us to continue the implementation project. Because the situation of rural water, sanitation and hygiene particular knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) among them needs more improvement.



(CFS-photo)

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. ENG Samnang,  
CFS director,