

Women & Success

WORTH Program in Cambodia Quarterly Newsletter

Women have opportunity to increase their family income by saving and getting loans to create or strengthen small businesses. For 400 women in Preah Sihanouk Province, their own savings is their main capital.

Quarterly Highlights

Pact Cambodia and NGO partners KWCD and CHETRIG have been actively engaged with fishing communities in Preah Sihanouk province focusing on health and income-generating activities. The following highlights some of the key activities and successes achieved this quarter.

Health Program

- Health education on Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS prevention was provided to 386 community members, including people living with HIV/AIDs to raise awareness on the prevention and treatment of the diseases.
- 268 copies of *TB-HIV Prevention and Treatment* booklets and *Good Hygiene and Sanitation Brings Good Health* posters were distributed to WEG members and poor fishing communities in Steoungkhav district and Preah Sihanouk municipality, Preah Sihanouk province.
- KWCD conducted a two day echo training on Communication and Facilitation Skills to 25 WEG members in Steoungkhav high school, Steoungkhav district, Preah Sihanouk province to improve their knowledge and skills on communication

and facilitation to the WEG members. CHETRIG organized a two-day echo training on Management, Leadership and Advocacy Skills to nine Women Empowerment Group (WEG) members to strengthen the management, leadership and advocacy skills of the Management Committee members to more effectively run and manage the WEGs.

WORTH Program

Quarterly Saving, Loan and Interest Data

	February 2011	March 2011	April 2011
Income from interest	15,155,100 Riel (\$3,742)	11,627,550 Riel (\$2,871)	13,255,650 Riel (\$3,273)
Loan Amount	85,144,000 Riel (\$21,023)	106,097,100 Riel (\$26,196)	116,610,800 Riel (\$28,792)
Voluntary Saving	7,690,500 Riel (\$1,898)	10,547,000 Riel (\$2,604)	12,874,500 Riel (\$3,178)
Mandatory Saving	77,643,000 Riel (\$19,171)	86,362,000 Riel (\$21,323)	92,829,000 Riel (\$22,920)

Success Stories



Income Generation

Ms. Peang Phon is 45 years old and she is married with four children. She lives in Phum 4, Otrest Commune, Stoeunghav district, Preah Sihanouk province. Currently, Ms. Phon is making brooms and raising pigs for a living. Ms. Phon is a member of the Strey Rich Chamreoun WEG that has 30 members. Strey Rich Chamreoun currently has saved 12,050,000 Riel (\$2,975), and has provided loans to 37 members in the amount of 11,850,000 Riel (\$2,925), for small businesses raising animals, making brooms, fishing, selling grocery and cakes etc.

Ms. Phon is one of the most active members in her group. She participates in group activities and community development because she believes that regular and active involvement in her group helps her understand the importance of saving, loaning, repayment, and health issues. In addition to her mandatory saving, she has also been voluntarily saving every month. Up to now she has saved a total of 3,380,000 Riel (\$845).

She notices that the solidarity among the people in her community is increasing. Ms. Phon said, “Before, I never saved any money, therefore, when I need the money I have to borrow from the money lenders in my village and the interest rate is very high. Now, I don’t have to borrow from money lenders in my village because my group has enough money for members to borrow. Moreover, I have a lot of money from my voluntary saving that I can use for my business.” Ms. Phon thinks that the creation of the WEG has really helped and contributed to her family income.

Learning Literacy



Ms. Ngen Sareoun is 43 years old. She is living in Phum 3, Otrest Commune, Stoeunghav District, Preah Sihanouk Province. She is a member of Strey Chouy Kloun Eang WEG, consisting of 15 members. She practices literacy and numeracy skills regularly because she believes that learning literacy is very important for her to make a better living. She said, “Before, I didn’t know how to read, write and calculate, but now I can use these skills and knowledge to improve my business in the future.”



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