







## EMPOWERING TARGET-GROUP

## WORKING WITH THE LEAST-SERVED PEOPLE



## BRIDGING AUTHORITIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY

## INNOVATIVE & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT







## INTRODUCTION

2019 became the year where two core ICC policies were revised and put into practice. The first policy is the ICC Child Protection Policy. Protection of children is a core commitment and value in ICC, hence, a thorough process was laid out for the whole year. Firstly, resource-collection and research was done on current standards and minimum expectations from ICC external stakeholders in regards to child protection. Based on this data and ICC's own standards, the ICC Child Protection Policy was reviewed and updated accordingly. Secondly, a number of initiatives were arranged in order to ensure full understanding and compliance from the ICC team in child protection. An internal workshop was held for ICC staff in

September, followed by a number of workshops held for ICC stakeholders to promote child rights and child protection. Various materials have been produced to ensure compliance, as well as for teaching and promotion of child rights.

In 2018, internal training on "a zero tolerance stand on fraud and corruption" conducted for each ICC project team, prior to updating the ICC Anti Fraud & Corruption Policy. This training was done to create a common understanding and commitment to fight fraud and corruption in ICC. In 2019 the policy was updated and approved, and the ICC Finance Department has introduced the policy to ICC project teams during the second half of 2019.

It has been a high priority to ensure all ICC stakeholders understand that ICC has zero tolerance related to fraud and corruption.

ICC has, in 2019, benefited from various organisational development grants, and gained knowledge and skills on topics such as: monitoring and evaluation, baseline survey, the justice based approach, legal legislation, presentation and facilitation, report writing, youth engagement, and IT usage, which included an upgrade to a new accounting system for ICC. All these new skills have benefited ICC's development work for the poor and least-served people in Cambodia.



# SELF-SUFFICIENT LIVELIHOOD

## AN ICC STRATEGIC FOCUS

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The natural phenomena El Nino has, in 2019, created disasters and worsened many people's livelihood. Also, human harm to nature contributes to climate change and negative environmental impacts, including drought. Given those circumstances, the ICC iBCDE project (identity Based Community Development and Education), operating in Ratanakiri province, is working

with Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) among indigenous people, with a focus on reducing destruction of natural water sources in the community.

During recent years, villagers in Ratanakiri have faced drought, due to deforestation and climate change. However, many villagers lacked knowledge on water protection, which in previous

generations, had come from their mountains and forests. Their water sources had also provided people with vegetables, which they depended heavily upon, as these can only be grown in moist areas along the water stream. Without their normal level of natural water sources, the community people faced severe problems and lacked fresh vegetables.







The iBCDE team has educated community people about the risks and negative impacts of drought as a result of deforestation and climate change for example. Also, the iBCDE team has helped preserve and protect their natural water sources. At the same time, the iBCDE team has been able to seek involvement and participation from local authorities, and has established a joint effort with the community to protect their natural resources. The iBCDE team is still following up on DRR initiatives, and assists communities in developing their own DRR plans.

Today, community people are becoming more aware of the importance of their natural resources, as well as the effects of climate change. People value the increase of water, as well as more vegetation in their areas, as a result of their community DRR plans.





# PRO-ACTIVE CIVIL SOCIETY

## AN ICC STRATEGIC FOCUS

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The ICC VIDP project (Village Integrated Development Project) has been working directly with a number of local churches for more than 6 years, and empowered them to be involved in social issues and development activities in their local community. In 2018 a Cluster-concept was developed and introduced, because the VIDP team saw that many local churches would need a

network after the VIDP project is completed in a few years from now. Additionally, the VIDP team wants to empower churches to feel ownership of what they do for their communities, and in the future to have a larger collaboration and network for support and commitment.

During 2019, members of each Cluster-network took turns

leading their own group discussion on various issues. However, the VIDP team is still coaching them on how to facilitate the meeting successfully. So far, five Cluster-networks have been established by the VIDP project: one in Phnom Penh, three Clusters in Takeo province, and the last one is in Kampot province.







Local churches belonging to the five Clusters are engaging themselves with their local community people and with local authorities, in order to make sure that the community development initiatives are meeting the needs and priorities of the community. This links very well to the ICC Strategic Focus, which emphasises empowering new and existing

civil society organisations through capacity building, consultancy, mobilisation and engagement, in order to contribute to community development and to address civil challenges.

Once the VIDP project phases out, ICC is expecting to see that local churches, under the umbrella of the five Clusters,

will continue to be strong in networking, knowledge-sharing and supporting each other. ICC is also expecting to see that churches belonging to the five Clusters will continue to work closely with their Village Development Committees and local authorities, in order to ensure ongoing development of their village and improvement of the villagers' livelihoods.





# LEGAL JUSTICE

## AN ICC STRATEGIC FOCUS

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ICC has since 2012 been directly involved in child protection through various initiatives. In order to build upon the impact already achieved towards child protection and fulfilment of child rights, a spin-off project called ICC Child Rights project has been created and started on January 1, 2019. The core focus of ICC's previous child protection work was on mobilising the civil society to be active in child protection. But in order to ensure that laws and policies

are in place and being applied, there is a need to mobilise the state sector as well. Therefore, the new Child Rights project focuses on advocating for child protection and child rights within the existing Cambodian state structure.

This structure includes Women and Children Consultative Committees (WCCC) at provincial and district levels, and Commune Committees for Women and Children (CCWC) at operational level. Those committees are set

up throughout the country, and their main role is reporting and processing legal cases related to women and children. The core purpose of the Child Rights project is to assist and support the state sector via WCCCs and CCWCs in their child protection efforts and enforcement of laws and child rights. Furthermore, the Child Rights project is contributing towards the implementation of the National Strategic Development Plan in the aspects of child protection and child development.







The Child Rights project is operating in Takeo and Svay Rieng provinces. ICC has long experience working with child protection in Takeo province, and the Child Rights project will continue to work with key stakeholders there. In Svay Rieng province, ICC has also worked for several years, where the ICC FAST project (Family And School Transformation) is

operating. One of the FAST project's focuses is working with Parent-Teacher Associations and with WCCCs and CCWCs in Svay Rieng. The new Child Rights Project is now utilising these contacts already established by the FAST project to further escalate child protection and child rights fulfilment in Svay Rieng.

ICC aims to see that, through effective and efficient WCCCs and CCWCs operation at all levels, children are experiencing fulfilment of their given rights and legal justice, leading to safer childhoods, improved schooling, stronger self-esteem and better life value.





# ICC

## A LEARNING ORGANISATION

During recent years ICC has prioritized internal cross-learning between ICC projects, international networking, and organizational improvements through tailor-made programs for ICC, as well as attending supporting partners' various workshops and trainings.

In August 2019, ICC hosted an exposure visit from two organisations in Nepal; United Mission to Nepal (UMN) and International Nepal Fellowship (INF). The

two organisations visited the ICC Trafficking Response project in Prey Veng province, where they learned about combating illegal migration and raising awareness on how to do safe migration. They also visited the ICC Child Rights project in Takeo province, where they learned about ICC's promotion of child rights and child protection. The ICC Child Rights team shared about their experience working with civil society organisations, as well as

working directly with CCWCs and WCCCs. These exposure visits from UMN and INF allowed them and ICC to exchange best practice and experiences, which is useful learning for ICC and can be contextualized into local circumstances. Such exposure visits are valuable to ICC, in order to maintain relationships and gain from cross-learning with other organisations in the region.











## PLANS FOR 2020

2020 will mark the start of the ICC Trafficking Response project's second phase, continuing operation in Prey Veng province. The project will still focus on combating illegal and unsafe labour trafficking, as well as a new focus on sexual exploitation and trafficking, and on organ trafficking.

Also starting from January 2020, a new mini-project will begin related to Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience among indigenous people. Lessons learned from the mini-project will be used to design a new regular project from 2022 onwards. The mini-project will use strategies of case-study, pilot-initiatives and shadowing

the iBCDE's agricultural and environmental operations. Besides that, the mini-project will be used to explore work on the provincial border between Ratanakiri and Mondulakiri provinces, as well as exploring working with a new indigenous group - the Kraul indigenous community.

Based on ICC's almost 10 years of experience doing development work in Svay Rieng province, a new intervention is in the process of being designed, called "Agriculture & Agribusiness". The intervention will be designed and finalised during 2020, and is planned to start from 2021 with the following impact goal: Lowland farmers

in south-east Cambodia are contributing to social-economic growth by performing profitable, environmental-friendly and sustainable agriculture and agribusiness as their professional profession.

As an organisation, ICC will, during the first half of 2020, focus on how to protect vulnerable adults in daily work. Globally, there is an increased focus on safeguarding vulnerable adults, and ICC is committed to develop procedures and activities to protect this group of people at risk in Cambodia, based on both human rights and moral responsibilities.





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