



JUNE 2020

ActionAid Cambodia Distributed the Food and Non-Food Items to Covid-19 Affected Population

“Because of the Covid-19 crisis, Covid-19, I have no income to pay for debt and to provide food for my family. I can’t do much speaking of my disability”, said Saroeun.

Chhang Saroeun is a farmer living with disability in Srah Keo village, Odar Meanchey province. He has obtained the emergency aid as his family has suffered from the job losses and the debt to a bank, while they were not able to make income.



Chhang Saroeun and his wife receiving the aid at his home

In responding to impact of Covid-19 pandemic on vulnerable Cambodian population, ActionAid Cambodia (AAC) supported its partner, Community Transformation Organization (CTO), to deliver emergency food and non-food assistance to 100 families in Odar Meanchey province on June 16-17.

Saroeun said, ***“The aid is responding to my family’s current need. I think the food might last for a month.”***

AAC and CTO worked with health and local authorities to identify the beneficiaries targeting families living in poverty and those who have lost their job/ income as the result of Covid-19 crisis.

AAC and CTO followed strictly Covid-19 safety guideline for the response team and participating beneficiaries, as well as the Sphere Minimum Standard when accessing and distributing the aid, including ensuring proportionality of aid to beneficiaries’ family members. The participating beneficiaries also received awareness messages for Covid-19 prevention and hygiene practices from local health authority.



JUNE 2020

Mother Shows Concern Toward Children's Education During Covid-19



Covid-19 has spread in Cambodia since early 2020. More than 2.5 million people have direct impact suffering from business/income generation activities suspension. While living in poverty, they had lost their main source of income for their daily basic needs.

Chi Ngov, 39, a farmer and a charcoal producer in Odar Meanchey province, told that she cannot generate income since Covid-19 occurred. She said ***“Covid-19 has drained my family's income because I can't make money from my daily waged job. No middle person bought the charcoal I made.”***

In addition to the economic impact, schools have been closed as a preventative measure for Covid-19 infection. Students cannot go to school, leaving the parents responsible more for parenting their children.

The Ministry of Education Youth and Sport (MoEYS) has introduced distance learning through e-learning and television broadcast. The initiation aims to promote students' education in an efficient, equitable and quality way.

Despite the resources and strategies the education ministry provides, children in rural areas do not have access to distance education as they do not have access to the Internet, or their families were not able to own a television. MoEYS Minister H.E. Hang Chuon Naron estimated that only 50 to 60 percent of total 3 million students across the kingdom received distance and e-learning with limited efficiency.

Ngov is a mother to 4 children. Some of her children are students in kindergarten and primary school. Her children have been completely out of school since the 16 March 2020. Even though the MoEYS urges distance learning, her children do not receive a proper education since they do not own a television nor access to the Internet at home.

“[Due to Covid-19,] my children stay at home. My family did not own a television. My children do self-study by reading books occasionally, but sometimes, they don't”, Ngov said.

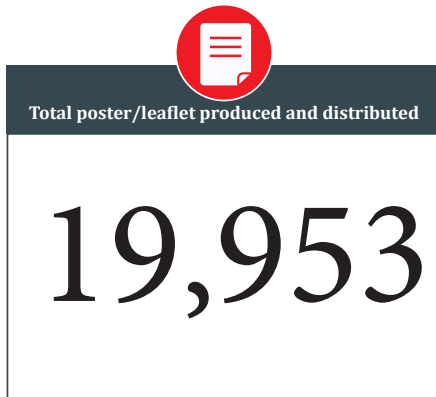
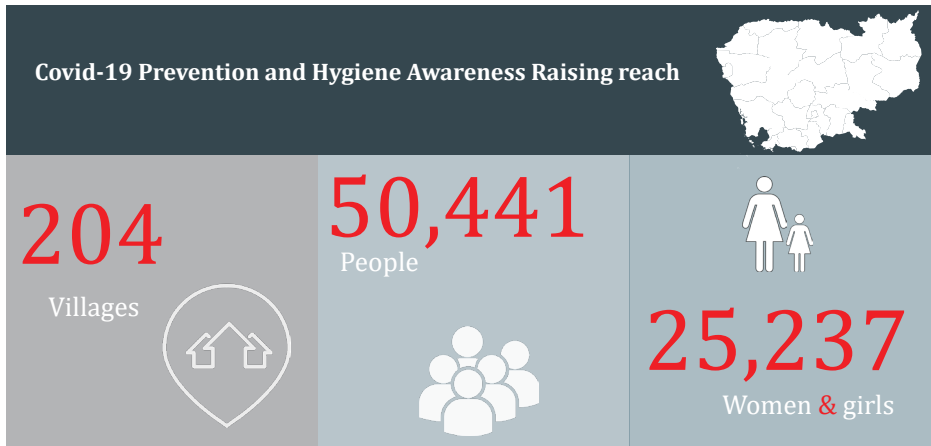
Ngov also expressed her concern while her children are out of school.

“When my kids cannot go to school, I have the responsibility to look after and keep them safe from hanging out around the [unsafe] area like pond for example.”



ActionAid Cambodia Covid-19 Responses

January to June 2020



On-going Actions

Covid-19 Impact of Informal Workers Assessment by ActionAid Cambodia and BBC Media Action
June-September 2020

Awareness raising on Covid-19 in LRPs - on going.



ActionAid Cambodia

- #33 St. 71, Tonle Bassac, Chamkarmorn, Phnom Penh
- e-mail.cambodia@actionaid.org
- cambodia.actionaid.org/
- www.facebook.com/ActionAidCambodia
- twitter.com/actionaidcambod
- www.instagram.com/actionaid_cambodia_/
- ActionAid Cambodia