Cambodia is prone to disaster and highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In consider the combination of a country’s vulnerability to climate change impacts and readiness to improve resilience, Cambodia ranks 152 out of 181 countries (score 38.4), according to the Worldwide ranking by ND-GAIN Country Index in 2019 [1]. The lower the score, the more vulnerable and less resilient a country is considered to be. The 2022 Cambodia Women’s Resilience Index (WRI) measured that local communities of Cambodia in four provinces had a resilience index score of 0.57, with men more resilient than women (0.60 vs 0.56).

Vulnerable and marginalized people, especially women are often more severely affected by climate change, due to the nature of their vulnerability. Gender-based inequities lead women to face more adverse climate change impacts than men. Remarkably, women are particularly exposed to disaster risks and suffer more in terms of access to resources, healthcare, safety and security. Livelihoods are often negatively affected and the work burden for women and girls increases during and after disasters, as they are typically responsible for securing fuelwood, water, food, and being primary caregivers. While women’s vulnerability is frequently highlighted, their contribution to building disaster resilience has often been overlooked, and they have been largely marginalized in the development of DRR policies and decision-making processes.

**Women’s Resilience Index**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic</th>
<th>Infrastructure</th>
<th>Social</th>
<th>Institutional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measure income and access and management of natural resources as a source of income as well as access to loans and market.</td>
<td>Measure infrastructure and location, access to energy, water and sanitation, input for livelihoods, communications technology, early warning system, and physical structure to protect natural hazards.</td>
<td>Measure access to education, information, health care, food/nutrition security, social mobility, migration, social safety net, GBV and preparedness</td>
<td>Measure participation in decision-making process, response by public institutions, disaster management plan and actions, and roles of media.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

512 respondents took part in this study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HH Survey</th>
<th>FGD</th>
<th>KII</th>
<th>IDI</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>384</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>127</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Geographic Location of the Study

KAMPONG THOM

Pursat:
- Resilience Index: 0.61 (Overall), 0.73 (Male), 0.70 (Female)
- Economic: 0.56 (Overall), 0.57 (Male), 0.56 (Female)
- Infrastructure: 0.59 (Overall), 0.65 (Male), 0.60 (Female)
- Social: 0.56 (Overall), 0.60 (Male), 0.54 (Female)
- Institutional: 0.58 (Overall), 0.64 (Male), 0.60 (Female)

KAMPOT:
- Resilience Index: 0.61 (Overall), 0.58 (Male), 0.58 (Female)
- Economic: 0.56 (Overall), 0.54 (Male), 0.56 (Female)
- Infrastructure: 0.61 (Overall), 0.60 (Male), 0.59 (Female)
- Social: 0.56 (Overall), 0.60 (Male), 0.56 (Female)
- Institutional: 0.71 (Overall), 0.59 (Male), 0.61 (Female)

KOH KONG:
- Resilience Index: 0.56 (Overall), 0.54 (Male), 0.42 (Female)
- Economic: 0.55 (Overall), 0.50 (Male), 0.48 (Female)
- Infrastructure: 0.56 (Overall), 0.60 (Male), 0.51 (Female)
- Social: 0.58 (Overall), 0.58 (Male), 0.58 (Female)
- Institutional: 0.56 (Overall), 0.56 (Male), 0.50 (Female)
ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

BARRIERS

• Basic earnings with no savings
• Unstable income

• COVID-19 Outbreak
• Decrease in natural resources/ Water scarcity

INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE

BARRIERS

• Limited resilient infrastructure to climate change
• Low waste management
SOCIAL RESILIENCE

BARRIERS

• Limited resilience capacity to climate change

INSTITUTIONAL RESILIENCE

BARRIERS

• Limited knowledge on disaster management plan
• Limited access to external assistance during an emergency
• Insufficient budget for emergency response and DRR/CCA at district and commune level
Key Recommendations

Invest in building the capacity of key relevant stakeholders on gender responsive in DRR/CCA by conducting a capacity needs assessment, developing long-term capacity building plans, providing comprehensive training with practical tools and cross-learning visits on gender responsiveness in DRR/CCA.

Promote women’s participation, leadership, and decision-making to build institutional resilience by supporting women’s leadership in WCNs and invest in long term capacity building plans for target women champions using a feminist leadership principles.

Invest in building Infrastructure Resilience by advocating with government and other donors to build structural protection from natural hazards and the disaster resilience of communities. Provide technical support to the community on safe house construction to withstand flooding and strong winds.

Strengthen Institutional Resilience by advocating for the implementation of gender integration into relevant DRR and CCA policies/frameworks/strategies by developing and implementing an advocacy strategy for the WLACC project.

Create an enabling environment for the full participation of WCNs in project implementation by supporting women champions to reduce the burden of unpaid care work through practical strategies and solutions toward Reduction, Recognition, Redistribution and Representation of care work among husband and wife.

Invest in building economic resilience by supporting the target community to apply climate resilient livelihoods approaches as alternative livelihood options and build capacity of farmers on climate smart agriculture so that they can adapt to climate change and reduce usage of chemical insecticides and fertilizers.

Invest in building Social Resilience through building capacity of community people in DRR/CCA so that they can be well prepared before the disaster strikes and coordinating with other key stakeholders to build social safety net for the most vulnerable households in the project target areas with support from WCNs.
Please contact us for more information or data about Women's Resilience Index

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