



Originally, World Vision's Project covered only two of twelve communes in Kirivong District. From October 2014, we expanded the target area to another commune, Kiri Chong Kaoh, so as to impact a greater number of children and their families. Our work in Kirivong now covers 27 villages in three communes.

#### BRIEF INFORMATION

IMPACT AREA POPULATION  
36,749 people

PROGRAMME LIFESPAN  
2009–2024

#### GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Kirivong district is a mountainous area in Takeo Province, to the south of Phnom Penh city, and close to the Vietnam border to the east.

#### PROGRAMME GOAL

Children and youths have good health, are educated and have life skills to become good citizens and competent leaders for sustainable community development.

# KIRIVONG CAMBODIA

## REALITIES

### Economic Poverty

Most of the people in Kirivong are engaged in rice farming, and some families also raise animals such as cows, pigs and chickens. But the community faces food shortages three to six months a year. The causes of food shortage include poor agriculture techniques, climate change and a high prevalence of pests. To cope with this, people usually eat less, sell their assets and borrow money to run a small business or buy food. Some poor families also sell their land to the rich. Families with small rice fields or who are landless are especially vulnerable to food insecurity and they eventually take their children, especially girls, out of school to help bring in some income.

### Educational Challenges

The literacy rate in Kirivong district is at 41%. Where education is concerned, enrolment rates at primary and secondary levels are high. But two in 10 children drop out of school before Grade 9 due to poverty, poor school facilities including lack of school teachers, and the need to help support their families' incomes. Such children take up jobs doing manual labour or construction work, carrying goods at the Vietnam border, making charcoal or breaking rocks.

### Healthcare Concerns

Access to safe drinking water is problematic. Most villagers have to travel long distances to collect water in the dry season. They also lack sanitation facilities such as latrines. There is a widespread practice of open defecation in rice fields, jungles or backyards. As a result, diarrhoea and typhoid are common.



**KEY CHALLENGES AND WORLD VISION'S KEY INITIATIVES**

**CHALLENGE** Families suffer due to insufficient food year-round, have limited technical skills in farming and lack of access to markets

**INITIATIVE** Increase incomes of poor households to ensure they can support their children's well being  
World Vision's interventions to help boost household incomes include training farmers in rice, vegetable and fish farming, as well as vocational skills to improve incomes from major and secondary occupations. Agriculture productivity is also improved by renovating and building irrigation canals. To increase access to markets, Agricultural Cooperatives are also established. Formation of savings groups increase access to financial capital for business ventures and strengthens families' abilities to provide for their children's health and education.

**CHALLENGE** Inadequate skills and knowledge of teachers and lack of school facilities

**INITIATIVE** Improve literacy and life skills of children  
To improve children's reading and writing skills, World Vision provides training to literacy coaches to identify and assist struggling students. Schools are provided with educational materials such as flashcards, reading games, magnetic letters and letter puzzles. School facilities and environments are upgraded and awareness sessions are conducted to increase parents' involvement in their children's education.



Primary school students improve literacy skills with the help of a

**CHALLENGE** Lack of clean water sources and poor sanitation practices within the community

**INITIATIVE** Improve access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene  
Deep tube wells and water tanks are constructed to increase access to safe drinking water. Water filters are given to schools and households, while latrines are constructed to improve sanitation. The communities are educated about good hygiene habits and are educated on household water treatment.

**CHALLENGE** Health centres are inadequate and are located far from homes

**INITIATIVE** Help mothers and children under five be healthy and well nourished  
World Vision provides training to strengthen the knowledge and practices of mothers and caregivers to feed children more nutritious food. Pregnant and post-natal mothers also receive home counselling and education on holistic care and safe childbirth. To facilitate greater community involvement in improving healthcare, Mother Support Groups help in the distribution of health supplements to children. Health centre facilities and equipment are also provided to improve the standard of health care .



Children have access to clean water with the provision of deep tube wells.

Through all these interventions, World Vision is transforming the lives of children in Kirivong, making a change today as well as giving them hope for the future!

**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**Sponsor a child** or give towards a **Gift Catalogue item**, which benefits the community!

Thank you for your heart for the poor, and for making a difference in the lives of children and families in Cambodia. **Because of our community-focused solutions, for every child you help, four more benefit too!**