A Community Meeting: Climate Change Vulnerability on the Agenda

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A Statement:

“not everyone knows the science of climate change”
- Chhaya’s own guts feeling

A definition: System

The word system refers to the organizing principles of complex interlocking relationships. Players (organisms, artefacts, things) in a system always exist in relation to other players in the system, and systems act in relation to other systems and are elements in larger systems still.
Introduction

• A pilot with an attempt to create an environment for community discussion on cc under KID’s new program Environmental Justice Initiative (EJI)
• deliberation (democratic/pluralistic) as a tool for civic engagement
• co-learning and joint-monitoring of the problems faced by the community incl. climate hazards
Mechanics

• Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA)
• Open community meeting with a coherent meeting agenda
  - Venues: at pagoda, people houses
• Citizen-Advisors (neutral mechanism)
• Donors: The Asia Foundation Cambodia and Oxfam America Cambodia
Challenges

- The 5 target grassroots communities are within the Mekong River Basin (floods & MR dependent!)
- Inexperience both implementer (KID) and beneficiaries (poor farmers, women, traders)
- Target grassroots communities literacy rate is LOW. But they can be honest and LOGIC! e.g. when ask a 60 y.o. farmer why rain hasn’t arrived? I don’t know but the weather is hotter.
Target provinces

- Kampot, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kratie, and Svay Rieng
- Districts: Angkor Chey, Boseth, Svay Teab, Kratie, and Stoung
The Heat is On

More or less of this type of action?
On what value?
- External?
- Ownership?
Community Approach

- Internal
- Ownership
- Accountability
Results

• 10 community meetings
• Established a system that will response to any hazards that may arise not just from cc impact
• common CC issues discussed: livestock health, droughts, livelihood, child rights
• the responses to the issues
Thank You!

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