

STORIES FROM A CLIMATE CHANGE HERO

Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Cambodia

As a farmer, Mr. Vuthy Mut knows the importance of having livestock that can adapt to the climate. Being a trainer of Drought Resistant Agricultural Techniques gives Mr. Mut an opportunity to instill this information in local farmers.



With a group of farmers keenly watching, Mr. Vuthy Mut calmly picks up a chicken and begins explaining the process of vaccination and how to mix chicken-feed. As a chicken farmer himself, he knows first-hand the importance raising healthy livestock. “By knowing the chicken-feed formula, you will increase the strength of your chickens. This is especially important during the drought, as the quality of the feed will improve chicken’s resiliency.”

Mr. Mut has been a part of [DanChurchAid](#)’s Drought Resistant Agricultural Techniques (DRAT) training, conducted in partnership with [United Nations Development Programme](#) (UNDP). From Kampong Speu, Mr. Mut has both been a support to local farmers who have previously completed the training, as well as providing expert knowledge on the topic during the training itself. This is a role that he enjoys, saying,



*Mr. Muth training farmers on chicken raising; setting up a rice husk charcoal kiln.
Photo credit: UNDP Cambodia/Kelsea Clingeffer.*

“I like training. I want to share my knowledge and what I have learned about chicken feeding. People need to have knowledge in order to get a good job. By training them I’m able to help them promote their own livelihood.”

Further, Mr. Mut played a key role in establishing [Drought InfoHubs](#), also developed under the DanChurchAid and UNDP partnership. “The Infohubs are important because, at the provincial level, they share information about the temperature and drought to farmers. If farmers know drought information, they can adapt vegetable-growing and chicken-raising practices,” Mr. Mut described.

Mr. Mut’s lifestyle reflects his commitment to the agriculture sector (“My wife also helps by making livestock feed – we are a family of chicken raising!”). His passion focuses on being able to apply what he has learned over the years, particularly during his tertiary studies in Phnom Penh, and supporting farmers in their agro-businesses and development.

Working together to build the country's forecasting capacities

Project Brief

Duration: 2016-2020

Project Budget: USD \$4,910,285

Implementing Partner:

Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology

Funding: GEF-Least Developed Country Fund

Location: Cambodia, nation-wide

Population to Benefit: Over 15 million (est.)

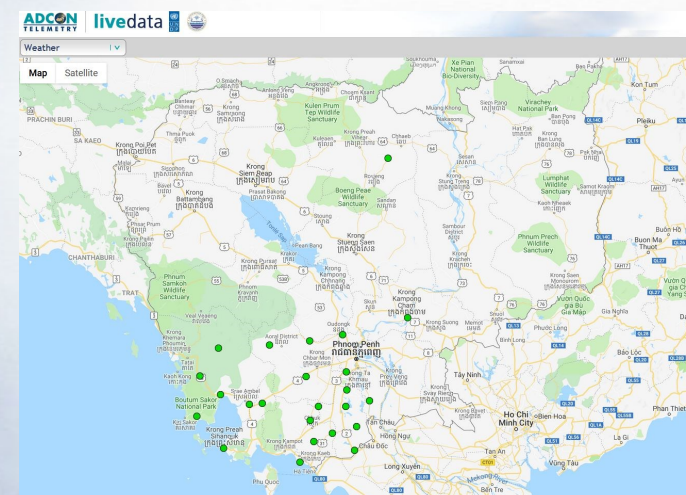
Cambodia's geographical exposure and the lack of adaptive capacity make it particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. With over 80% of the population dependent on subsistence farming, rural populations are particularly exposed.

Floods in 2013 affected 1.7 million people, with an estimated loss of US\$ 356 million. In 2016, floods affected 2.5 million people. These events are precursors of the impacts of the changing climate. Climate information is essential to prepare farmers.

With support from UNDP and funding from the GEF-Least Developed Countries Fund, the project '[Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems](#)' is supporting the [Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology \(MoWRAM\)](#) to increase Cambodia's institutional capacity, to assimilate and forecast weather, hydrological and climate information, and to improve communities' access to reliable information and early warning systems.

Under the project, 24 automatic weather stations and 29 hydrological stations for surface and ground water have been installed across the country, integrating technology and placing communities at the heart of a people-centred early warning system.

Information from the stations will be key to generating early warning messages, both for planning and for disaster preparedness and emergency response.



Globally, 45 countries are developing and strengthening early warning systems, with 189 new end-to-end early warning systems established in 26 countries. With UNDP support, nearly 21 million people have improved access to reliable climate information and early warning systems.

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