

Cambodia NOURISH Project



Photo by: Save the Children

To promote optimal child growth and development, Cambodia NOURISH targets women and children during the first 1,000 days—from the start of pregnancy until the child reaches two years of age.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Inna Sacci, MA

Chief of Party, NOURISH
Save the Children in Cambodia

Email: inna.sacci@savethechildren.org

Sopheanarith Sek

Agreement Officer Representative
USAID

Email: sosek@usaid.gov

Tonh Mok

Agreement Officer Representative
USAID

Email: tmok@usaid.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.cambodia.savethechildren.net

THE PROBLEM

Approximately 32% of Cambodia children under-five are chronically malnourished or stunted (2014 CDHS). This is of grave concern for Cambodia because stunting has detrimental long-term consequences on health and economic development.

OUR RESPONSE

With funding from USAID and the U.S. Government's Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative Feed the Future, NOURISH works to accelerate stunting reduction by focusing directly on several of the key causal factors of chronic malnutrition specific to Cambodia—poverty, lack of access to quality food and nutrition services, unsanitary environments, and social norms and practices that work against optimal growth and development. NOURISH **aims to improve the nutritional status and well-being of women and children** in 555 under-served, rural communities in *Battambang*, *Pursat*, and *Siem Reap* provinces, uniquely integrating **health/nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and agriculture**.

NOURISH is implemented through four over-arching strategies.

1. Improving community delivery platforms to support improved nutrition:

A major delivery platform supported by NOURISH is the community stunting prevention program that uses fixed locations for promoting children's growth, with referral and follow-up for sick and severely malnourished children through existing social support and health systems. NOURISH supports village health support groups (VHSGs) to deliver quality nutrition services and establish strong links to health centers. Collaboration with the agriculture sector offers opportunities to address food security constraints, and broad reach within the community to promote social and behavior change for improved nutrition.

2. Creating demand for health, WASH, and agriculture practices, services, and products:

Conditional cash transfers (CCTs), vouchers, and social and behavior change communications (SBCC) work to create demand for improved evidence-based practices, services and products. CCTs serve as an incentive for women to access nutrition services by addressing poverty-related constraints. Community-led total sanitation creates the demand for sanitation, and the provision of vouchers helps the poor to purchase agricultural (e.g. vegetables, fish) and WASH products (e.g. water filters, latrines, hand washing devices).

3. Using the private sector to expand supply of agriculture and WASH products:

On the supply side, NOURISH works with small and medium enterprises to increase the market for agriculture and sanitation products. Expanding the supply to meet the demand ensures that households and communities have access to agriculture and WASH products, which contributes to improved household and community diet diversity and sanitation practices.

4. Building capacity of government and civil society:

NOURISH strengthens the capacity of partners in nutrition, agriculture, sanitation and hygiene activities through organizational development, mentoring, and advocacy. The project supports local leaders to encourage nutrition activities in the community, reinforcing the social and behaviour change messaging and community structures for nutrition.