



**WOMEN**

**FARMER**

**CHAMPION'S**

**PROFILE**



# BACKGROUND

Agriculture has played a crucial role in maintaining economic growth, ensuring sustainable food security, and promoting rural economic in the country. A report published by the World Bank on Gender in Agriculture of Cambodia shows that the sector approximately contributes 30% to the national gross domestic product (GDP). In the country's where 2.3 million families of her population are farmers, the same report released by the World Bank in 2015 showed that about 75 % of Cambodian women are working in the agricultural sector, meanwhile, men is about 60%.

In Cambodia, women in countryside have actively involved in agricultural and household work in order to balance their livelihood. Although women is important to back the agriculture, gender gap in accessing to support and technical training on farming knowledge remain a challenge for them. Such factors as: distant information center, lower literacy level, housework burden, and other social contexts.





# WOMEN FARMER CHAMPIONS

The Women Farmer Champions Forum is a joint project between the Ministry of Agriculture Forest and Fisheries' Gender Division , non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and Oxfam's partners. The network was established to create a platform where female farmers could share experiences, learn from each other and discuss future plans that include agriculture development as a way to improve rural living standards.

The Women Farmers Champion Forum is divided into two steps, the subnational level and the national level. In sub-national forum, the participations are 521 women farmers from all the provinces across the country, which were divided into 5 regions such as: Mekong River region, southern Tonle Sap region, northern Tonle Sap region, lowland region, and coastal region. They were facilitated to discuss about their opinions on agriculture, to share their successful experiences, and the challenges they are facing in agriculture such as water issues, capital, and market. All the women farmers from the 5 regions, then, elected their representatives to proceed to the national forum. 20 farmers from each region was elected and chosen to participate the national Women Farmers Champion forum.

The two phases forum are expected to illustrate indispensable roles of women in Cambodia agriculture. Women are the cells of society. Through out this networking, online women farmers will be able to sharing their best practices, experiences, knowledge, and skills in farming to one another. This would be a great asset to prosper agricultural sector in the country as well as promoting farmer livelihood.



# ABOUT THE BOOK

Short biographies of 100 female farmers demonstrate the vital role and tremendous contribution women have made to the Cambodian agriculture sector. The individual stories also act as a source of information, communicating ideas, perspectives and experiences about farming.

This book is not only aiming at providing the 100 farmers' biography, but also showing their tremendous roles and contribution to agriculture as a whole. In addition, each article in this book will be a voice to show their idea, perspective, and good experiences on agriculture.



# THE SOUTHERN TONLE SAP

The sub-national Women Farmers Champion Forum was divided into five regions to encourage conversation about local issues.



The southern Tonle Sap area has expansive agriculture potential throughout its four provinces, Pailin, Battambang, Pursat, and Kampong Chhnang. Battambang Province is regarded as a nutritious land for crop plantations that provide significant yield which improved the livelihood of the Cambodians about 80%<sup>1</sup>, and similarly Pailin, Pursat and Kampong Chhnang are rich with fertile soil. Cassava, corn and soybean are produced extensively in the region. The fish-catch from local lakes is also depended upon for nutrition. The forum discussion found that female farmers in this region predominately work collectively, with shares in agricultural communities and a focus on improving the community as a whole.

<sup>1</sup> Researched and Written by: Khut Sornnimul, The Learning Institute. Date: 20.11.2012



# CHAN SOPHAL

*TANEY VILLAGE, CHIEB COMMUNE, TUEK PHOS DISTRICT,  
KOMPONG CHHNANG PROVINCE*

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*37 YEARS OLD*

*097 61 38 461*

“  
*Women could do  
anything to make a better  
agriculture sector  
in the country.*

”

Farming has never been easy for Ms. Sophal as well as other members in her community because of it more depends on conventional agriculture techniques, lacking of water sources, and middlemen offer lower price to their yield. Despite all the difficulties, she keeps hoping that one day, things will be better because her family income is solidly relied on rice farming and raising animals. In order to get out of those problems, she has participated in many public forums and training courses to gain new knowledge and technical skills in farming. She is now a community representative whose roles are to find a better market for community products and to support other farmers on technical skills. Being motivated by her family and community, Ms. Sophal believes that she could be one of the finalists of sub-national and National Women Farmer Champion Forum.



# **SUN SREYPOV**

*KRASANG PUL VILLAGE, SVAY COMMUNE,  
SAMEAKKI MEAN CHEY DISTRICT, KOMPONG CHHNANG PROVINCE*

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**44 YEARS OLD**

**092 230 347**

**“ Women can also do whatever men do, and women are the key to empower the agricultural sector. ”**

Inherited the farming career from her parents, Ms. Sun Srey Pov has been working hard in rice farming and other crops plantating as main income sources for her family. Day to day, her family’s status has been improved, since she started practicing modern techniques of farming that she gained from trainings. Ms. Srey Pov, 44, is known as a farmer of willingness and responsibility and she has been participating in many community activities such as Good Farming Practice and Market Information. She gains support and love from her community. All these enable her great roles in Women Farmer Champion in subnational and national level.



# ***DITH SOPHEAP***

***BOENG CHHUK VILLAGE, ANLONG VIL COMMUNE,  
KANDIENG DISTRICT, PURSAT PROVINCE***

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***33 YEARS OLD***

***071 6463 620***

***“  
Before picking up a job,  
it is important that  
we understand about it  
well with good analysis.***

***”***

Ms. Dith Sopheap believes that every single job has its value. From Pursat province, the farmer is very positive about agricultural work because it makes her family status getting better gradually. Currently, she is planting vegetable and raising animals. Apart from the farming work, she is also a staff of Toek Saart 1001 Organization. She believes that agricultural job could help lower down migration rate. She insists that when the farmers understand the value of farming well, they will start to focus it and they will get success in some day, Dith Sopheap said she commits to be a messenger in spreading out new knowledge which she gained from any training to her community.





# ***PICH SOKUNTHEARY***

***PREY KHLONG VILLAGE, ROKAT COMMUNE,  
PHNUM KRAVANH DISTRICT, PURSAT PROVINCE***

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***32 YEARS OLDL***

***097 9744 270***

***“***

***Women are an  
important element  
to develop the country.***

***”***

Ms. Sokuntheary, 32 years old, is a representative farmer from Pursat province in Women Farmer Champion Forum. Through out her work in rice farming, cassava and many other fruit planting, she thinks that farming work is a tiring job but it is a good career because the farmers have their ownership. She usually motivates the community to stay focus on farming works rather than migrating to work in other countries which is highly risky. Presently, besides the farming, she is also a coordinator for the women community in her village, head of money saving group, and head of the cow bank in her community. She wishes to see every woman, especially women farmers have courage to voice their opinion as it is also a way to develop themselves as well as the whole community.



**33 YEARS OLD**

**089 652 465**

**“ Farmers should strive in farming to meet domestic and foreign market demand.**

**”**

# **MIT LA**

***TA KAEV VILLAGE, TNAOT CHUM COMMUNE, KRAKOR DISTRICT,  
PURSAT PROVINCE***

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At her 33 years old, Ms. Mit La who has been working hard in farming to support the daily family condition was nominated as good woman farmer in Pursat province. Since abandoning outdated farming technique and picking up modern farming techniques, she got remarkable yield. Moreover, she also owns a family fish farm which she supplies to community market. In addition, she's also a teacher at Phrumvihear Thor Organization where she regularly outreaches new techniques of cultivation and raising animal to the community. This is why she can play an important role in the forums and in the sub-national or regional level.



**27 YEARS OLD**

**097 613 8461**

**“ Farmers should try new farming techniques in order to get higher yield.**

# **SAO SORT**

**SARIENG VILLAGE, SRAE SDOK COMMUNE, KANDIENG DISTRICT,  
PURSAT PROVINCE**

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“SRI technique is convenient, less time consuming, and less seeds used”, said Ms. Sao Sort, farmer from Pursat province. When she first started SRI techniques, it was a little bit hard as she did not get use to it. Occasionally, she was teased by her neighbors. After two consecutive years of practicing, she noticed that her rice yield has dramatically increased. Currently, rice farming, raising animal, and planting crop in rainy season are the main jobs for her 5 people-family. She believes that farming is a good job to earn income if practicing rightly. But if farmers do not use proper skills and techniques, it will result in waste of seeds, a lot of time and get lower yields.



# LAO CHANRETH

*PROHOAS KBAL VILLAGE, PHTEAH RUNG COMMUNE,  
PHNUM KRAVANH DISTRICT, PURSAT PROVINCE*

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*61 YEARS OLD*

*017 496 271*

“

There would be organization of producer group for farmers so that they can promote new variety of rice seed, which gets higher price.

”

Be left from her parents, agriculture has been a main income for the family. Ms. Chanreth, 61, believes that agriculture is very important for people in countryside because their family economy relies mainly on such agricultural products as rice, vegetable, cassava, and domestic animals husbandry. Besides her farming works, Ms. Chanreth has actively involved in community work. Consequently, her contribution has been recognized and she could be played many roles such as: head of village saving group, head of buffalo bank of HOPE organization, deputy chief of Pursat provincial community forestry network, and head of community forestry in her village. On top of that, she has been urged women to participate in community work. All these make her be an important part of sub-national and national Women Farmer Champion Forum for now.



# ***KHEL KHEM***

***BAK AMRAEK VILLAGE, PREAEK LUONG COMMUNE,  
AEK PHNUM DISTRICT, BATTANG PROVINCE***

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***64 YEARS OLD***

***092 601 174***

***“ A Farmer, We should have a better understanding about market demand and should never trust to buyer’s scale. ”***

The natural disaster in 2000 made the crops suffocated in water and push Ms. Khel Khem’s living condition into hardship, so she decided to migrate to Khmer-Thai border to work. Despite the hardship, she stayed strong and kept moving forward, which finally she has some money to set back to her farming job. Lacking of technical skills, she kept practicing conventional farming which resulted in less production yield. She had been through a lot of struggles before she was chosen to join the training on modern technique of rice farming and fish farming. She patiently practiced what she has learnt and finally, her effort was paid off. Her family is now in a better condition, and she, then, sharing the knowledge to her community. Besides, she also participates in community work by educating people of domestic violence’s affect and how to have a safe migration.



**29 YEARS OLD**

**017 226 289**

**“ Women should grab any opportunities to better develop themselves. ”**

# **DEM SREYLIM**

**VOAT KANDAL VILLAGE, REANG KESEI COMMUNE,  
SANGKAE DISTRICT, BATTAMBANG PROVINCE**

Her time contribution and willingness to develop herself have finally paid off. Ms. Sreylim is now one of the hundred finalists to participate the Women Farmer Champion forum. With her 15 years of farming experience, Ms. Sreylim believes that while the world is moving on with new technology, farmers should also be able to upgrade themselves in accordance to the new generation, so new ways of farming is very important. Besides, her busy time with farming, she also actively involves in community works such as helping agriculture cooperative with documentation, participating in village meetings, farmer assembly, workshops and reporting. She was assigned to take role as communication and keep good relationship with relevant stakeholders as provincial department of agriculture, Krom Aphiwat Phoum Organization. She hopes that all the farmers will keep improving their farming skill in order to increase the yield qualitatively and quantitatively.



# ***DUCH SOPHEAK***

***STHAB POR MOUY VILLAGE, AMPIL PRAM DAEUM COMMUNE,  
BAVEL DISTRICT, BATTANG PROVINCE***

***30 YEARS OLD***

***097 8200 984***

***“  
Planting vegetable is a  
scheme of planting  
money.  
”***

Life seems not to have been easy for Sopheak from the beginning. Having four siblings in the family, Sopheak and her husband started making rice wine and raising pigs for earning income. She has been seeking for capital from bank to operate a grocery retailing shop. In 2014, she bought a plot of land and started to invest in agriculture. Despite the busyness from her work, Sopheak always take some of her time spending on community work. She volunteers in work related to reproduction health and later on she became a member of village bank committee and head of agricultural community. These are all the factors why she was selected to be a contestant for Women Farmer Champion Forum.



# YANN SREYYART

*SVAY CHEAT VILLAGE, REANG KESEI COMMUNE,  
SANGKAE DISTRICT, BATTAMBANG PROVINCE*

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**34 YEARS OLD**

**089 445 855**

”

**Farmers should try and accept new agricultural techniques because it would help increasing production yields.**

”

Rice field is not just an income resource, but it is also a place where Ms. Sreyyart could feel relax. Have been working at the rice field for 17 years, she went through the traditional way of farming and new way of farming. She told that the traditional way of farming requires more capital and energy while it provides lower yield. In other way, the new farming techniques by selecting high yield seeds and practicing SRI method provide better production yield and lift up the living condition quickly. Besides farming, she is also a chef cooking for wedding party and any occasions. She is known as a helpful neighbor and a great asset for the community as she always spends time helping her community.





# **YON SREYYARNN**

*SEAM VILLAGE, AMPIL PRAM DAEUM COMMUNE,  
BAVEL DISTRICT, BATTAMBANG PROVINCE*

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**31 YEARS OLD**

**097 8691 651**

**“  
Women are key players  
to create happiness  
in families and enhance  
community’s prosperity.  
”**

Possessing agricultural skills from her parents, Sreyyarnn has been involving in the work for around 21 years. Despite the fact that she is busy with managing many small scale businesses such as grocery retailing shop, gasoline shop, and construction material shop, Sreyyarnn has never thought of giving up her farming career. Sreyyarnn considers happiness as her first priority and so she is always be happy whenever she set her contribution to the community.



# ***YEM SOPHONNA***

*DAK SASAR VILLAGE, OU MAL COMMUNE, BATTAMBANG DISTRICT,  
BATTAMBANG PROVINCE*

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**40 YEARS OLD**

**016 783 010**

**“ Participating in more training is to gain more knowledge.**

Started the farming career since her young ages, it was difficult since the price of fertilizer and labor force are expensive and the yield got low paid. She, however, always be positive to the jobs as she thinks that, at least, it is a food storage for her family. She has participated in many training courses such as crop planation with trip system and use of crop calendar for planting crops and the trend of crops in the market. So far, she is successful in raising chickens, she has always motivated the other farmers to participate in training courses to gain new knowledge. She hopes that some days there will be NGOs or any governmental related sectors conduct training courses in her community on making organic fertilizer and SRI technique.

**”**



**63 YEARS OLD**

**012 237 739**

**“Farmer should be able to spare their time creating more income.”**

# **LY THOEUT**

***TA SONG VILLAGE, BAY DAMRAM COMMUNE, BANAN DISTRICT,  
BATTAMBANG PROVINCE***

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Mrs. Ly Thoeut is a skillful farmer. With her experience in farming for over 30 years, she thinks that farming is a good job that helps farmers to save more capital to expend their business. She had been trained from agricultural department in skills of vegetable planting, rice farming, financial management, human rights, and gender equity. All these knowledge is great assets to make a great impact and to enhance the community livelihood. She was previously a committee member of New Light of Hope community and later on she was a member of Family Enterprise Union which is the combination of farmers from 10 provinces. She wants all the women to be strong and be courage to have their opinion heard as they are important part to develop the community.



**31 YEARS OLD**

**097 6839 630**

**“ Success only exists  
after hardworking.**

# **LIM LAB**

***BOENG ANLOK VILLAGE, KDOL TA HAEN COMMUNE,  
BAVEL DISTRICT, BATTAMBANG PROVICNE***

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From Battambang province, a famous territory of various rice products, Mrs. Lim Lab thinks that as a farmer, there is no such thing as happy as seeing the crop providing high yield. Though climate change becomes a great obstacle for her farming job, she is still positive about the career because she believes that if this year she can not get good yield, she may get a higher yield next year, so the farmers should not be hopeless. Through out the Women Farmer Champion forum, she realizes the potential of women and their idea from every region of Cambodia. She thinks that this is a step ahead to make women feel confident and be creative to seek for solution in their career.”



# ***OURN SITHA***

***TUOL TA SOKH VILLAGE, BANSAY TRAENG COMMUNE,  
THMA KOUL DISTRICT, BATTAMBANG PROVINCE***

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***60 YEARS OLD***

***078 607 186/088 234 18 79***

***“***

***Market is quite important for farmers, so the agricultural related sector should focus more on that.***

***”***

Migration became a decision for Ms. Sitha’s children. Because the family condition was getting harder and the farming did not yield very well. Her two sons decided to leave home to be labor workers in Thailand. She thinks that farmers in Cambodia still have low knowledge on agriculture. At the same time, their products were low paid on the market because they are lacking of market information which make the middlemen take advantage on them. Upon the participation in Women Farmer Champion, she believes that this is a fine chance where farmers could figure out where they can reach for capital and how to network with each other to get market information. She is hoping that in the future women could participate in more public forums so that they could gain valuable knowledge which is a great capital to make the sector in the country prosper like the nearby countries.



# ***IM KUNTHEA***

***PREAEK CHDAOR VILLAGE, PEAM AEK COMMUNE,  
AEK PHNUM DISTRICT, BATTAMBANG PROVINCE***

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***51 YEARS OLD***

***092 915 757***

**“  
Farming will be successful  
if putting more effort  
and investment, using  
organic fertilizer,  
and having appropriate  
source of water.  
”**

After the old tradition of farming left her in debt as the yield kept decreasing, Mrs. Im Kunthea finally gave a try to new technique of farming and raising animal after got training from Women Development Organization. She is now very happy indeed as the yield has increased. Since her family condition is getting better now, she managed to send one of her children to pursue higher education in medical doctor. After being so successful in her farming technique, she has shared her successful experience to her community. Her skills and ability finally made her become a group leader in her community.



**56 YEARS OLD**

**095 224 423**

“

**Farmers should be flexible and adapt to climate change.**

”

# **KONG SREY**

*OU ROEL VILLATE, STUENG KACH COMMUNE, SALAKRAY DISTRICT,  
PAILIN PROVINCE*

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Varieties of gems are the great asset for Pailin province; anyhow, seeking for gems does not make the people condition in the area getting better. This is one reason to make Ms. Kong Srey and other farmers start clearing the forest and do farming. Unfortunately, climate change has made her job unstable. She and other farmers have gained good yield for their first year of crop farming as corn, sesame, soybean, and cassava. Later, those yields decreased which made her as well as other farmers were in debt. She sees the Women Farmer Champion as a microphone to louder their concerns regarding water, capital, and market and also to seek for solution.



**55 YEARS OLD**

**093 939 467**

**“ Farmers should never give up agricultural work because it will help improve their livelihood.**



# ***KHUN THEOUN***

***BENG VILLATE, STUENG KACH COMMUNE, SALAKRAY DISTRICT,  
PAILIN PROVINCE***

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From Pailin, Ms. Khun Theoun believes that family is the main enabler factor to encourage women and make them feel strong, so that they could help their community. Farming career is the main income of her family and it provides regular income. However, in recent years, climate change seems to affect the farmer's livelihood a lot, likewise, Ms. Khun Theoun, believes that working hard is the most important to escape the hardship. It is not a luck which she was chosen to be a farmer representing from Pailin. So far, she has been spending her own time joining community work, and she's also known as a successful farmer who get certificate from provincial agricultural department recognizing her good practice in farming as well.





# LIM SOPHEAP

*KRACHAB VILLAGE, OU TAYAO COMMUNE, PAILIN DISTRICT,  
PAILIN PROVINCE*

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**45 YEARS OLD**

**071 4623 312**

“

**The world needs  
agriculture, and agri-  
culture is a very  
important part for farmers.**

”

With 20 years of experiences on farming job, Ms. Sopheap thinks that the job is the heaviest one as each farmer invested a lot of their energy and money in it, but the price of the product they produced is not set by them. Very much passionate on the job, she always keeps on seeing the sector will grow and catch up with neighboring countries. Thus, she helps her community on managing financial of the community loan, which allows farmers in her community could have money to invest in agriculture work. Lately, she has led her community to a deal with an export company producing bamboo. Besides being a farmer, she is also a member of village administration staff helping her villager get poverty card to get free of charge for hospital service as well.

# THE NORTHERN TONLE SAP



The northern Tonle Sap region, that includes Oddar Meanchey, Siem Reap, Preah Vihear, and Kampong Thom, has large amounts of land suitable for farming and fruit crops. Apart from the many famous tourism sites, Siem Reap also has 65 natural pools and a natural irrigation system(219.52 km in length)<sup>2</sup>, where farmers can easily access water needed for crops. The Banteay Meanchey, Oudor Meanchey, Phreah Vihear, and Kampong Thom economies also depend on agriculture, fisheries, and tourism. Rice, beans and rubber are prominent agricultural products.

<sup>2</sup>Siem Reap Province. Municipality and Province Investment Information.



# NHORK LOA

*RUMPUH VILLAGE, MEAN CHEY COMMUNE, SANDAN DISTRICT,  
KAMPONG THOM*

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**42 YEARS OLD**

**071 7746 106**

“

**Farmers should use organic fertilizer for farming which could promote chemical free agriculture products and produce safe food.**

”

Nhork Loa, 42 years old, started farming work since her childhood life. After getting married, she expanded her agriculture job by adding up cashew tree and family vegetable farm. In the family of 6 members, cashew farm is the main income source that provide good yield annually. She believes that all new knowledge on agriculture are necessary because it can't stay the same while the world is moving on. Usually, she shares her successful practice of system rice intensification to the community. She advises that farmers should use organic fertilizer to increase their yield as well as high price.



# MEOUN SORN

*KAMPONG KOU KRAOM VILLAGE, KAMPONG KOU COMMUNE,  
KOMPONG SVAY DISTRICT, KOMPONG THOM*

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**38 YEARS OLD**

**092 662 969**

“  
**Women are playing  
important roles in farming  
and generating  
more income for their  
families.**

”

Having no land for farming, Ms. Meoun Sorn decided to pick the job in fishery. Despite the fact that she can't make a lot of money out of the fishing job, she has never thought of giving up because it has been part of her life and the source of financial support for schooling her 4 children. She thinks that as farmers, it is better to keep focusing on the job and at the same time children education is also important. So far, she took part in establishing farmer group, fishing group, rice bank group, saving group, and fish processing group. All these are her prolific to empower the community.



**24 YEARS OLD**

**071 7741 105**

**“Farming is a difficult job,  
but you will be happy  
when you see the result.”**

# ***SEM SINAT***

***NGON VILLAGE, NGAN COMMUNE, SANDAN DISTRICT,  
KOMPONG THOM***

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Having been through training on animal husbandry, Ms. Sinat has put the knowledge into practice and finally her effort paid off as the returning result is quite satisfying. She said that, “before it took me one year for raising pigs that can be sold, but now it takes only 5 to 6 months”. Ms. Sinat, 24 years of age, stressed that she loves the job so much because she self-controls on the job and this is an independent job which she can invest more when she have more capital.



# SVAY NENG

*RONEAM VILLAGE, MEAN CHEY COMMUNE, SANDAN DISTRICT,  
KOMPONG THOM*

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**37 YEARS OLD**

**097 5973 315**

“  
**Farmers should patiently  
focus on the work and  
their children’s education.**

”

Representing to Kampong Thom Province for the Champion Women Farmer Forum, Ms. Svay Neng, 37 years old, is a mother and a farmer who has spent 10 years with agricultural work. She is very skillful in raising chickens and pigs and she also owns a family vegetable farm. She believes that having skills in agriculture not only could produce organic product, but also produce regular income. With her successful experience through out practicing new farming technique so far, she advises that knowledge is essential. She would love to be a messenger spreading out all her knowledge to the community after the Women Farmer Champion.



# KONG SOLAY

*CHEA SMAN VILLAGE, MEAN CHEY COMMUNE,  
PRASAT BAKONG DISTRICT, SIEM REAP*

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**33 YEARS OLD**

**017 557 502**

“

**Farmer should  
practice technical  
farming.**

”

Despite the fact that farmers rely mainly on rice field work, Ms. Soklay never let her time be wasted. Aside from rice farming job, she's also a staff at her community health center and a fertilizer retailer. With her 20 years of experience in farming, she is recognized as an experienced farmer skilling in rice farming, planting vegetable, and animal farming. She has been through such kind of skill training from NGO who working in her community. She believes that agriculture work is the only way which she could earn a regular income to support her family expense and her children education. She would like to tell the other women to grab any opportunities that can enhance their knowledge to increase the income of families.



**47 YEARS OLD**

**092 190 496**

**“ Farming job does not only provide money but also provide my children’s education. ”**

# ***BUN KIMLA***

***TA TOK VILLAGE, PUOK COMMUNE, PUOK DISTRICT, SIEM REAP***

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As a widow, Mrs. Kimla took a great responsibility taking care of her children. She has been through quite a very hard time so far to maintain her family situation as well as to provide her children with a fine education as she could. 47-year old Kimla was trained to work in farming since a very young age. She is now working on rice farming, vegetable farming, and raising animal. Her faithfulness and time contribution made her come this far in the women farmer champions forum.





# SEAK KALYAN

*TROM TBOUNG VILLAGE, CHROUY NEANG NGUON COMMUNE,  
SREI SNAM DISTRICT, SIEM REAP PROVINCE*

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*41 YEARS OLD*

*012 491 981*

“  
Diminishing the import  
agricultural  
product could actually  
increase the  
community production.  
”

Seak Kalyan, 41, a farmer from Siemreap believes that agriculture is not only a financial resource but also a food bank for the farmers to ensure that their food is chemical free. After having been through training on leadership and agricultural technique, she is now more confident and put what she has learnt into practice and she could see the increment of her family income. Her two children have been sent to school. She wishes to enhance her community through networking with the other women farmer to exchange market information as well as to enhance the women role in her community.



# AN KOLAB

*SAMBUOR VILLAGE, NOKOR PHEAS COMMUNE,  
ANGKOR CHUM DISTRICT, SIEM REAP PROVINCE*

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**41 YEARS OLD**

**097 8684 664**

“

**Cambodia really  
needs agriculture.**

”

Aside being a wife, Ms. Kolab is an authentic farmer who has been through 20 years experience of farming career. With all the years, draught, flood, and insect have taught her plenty lessons for which is she could seek a better solution to increase her yield product against all the obstacles. In addition to her current farming career, she is also a middleman buying chicken. She values the farming career indeed as the career gradually lift up her family condition and provide her family with proper food. She is a good secretary of saving group and her leadership skill has made the community meeting easier.



# **KEAN KIMTEANG**

*KOUK KEI VILLAGE, TA PHOU COMMUNE, SVAY CHEK DISTRICT,  
BANTEAY MEANCHEY PROVINCE*

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**32 YEARS OLD**

**096 6142 598**

**“  
The advancement of  
agricultural sector  
will lead to the  
diminishing of migration.  
”**

In recognition to her role as an accountant in the community along side with her sincerity, Ms. Kimteang earns a great respect from people in the community. She is such a responsible person whether in her community work and her family. In her opinion, farming is much more than just a career. Despite the fact that farming provides her family with less incomes, she is happy though as her family could live happily together. She holds a strong believe that if the Cambodian farmers could afford such advanced material, they would be able to make a better result. She encourages every woman to be strong and participate in community work because such work could equip them with good experience and a better image in the society.



**28 YEARS OLD**

**097 2010 711**

“

**Say no to migration,  
Say yes to farming.**

”

# ***NHEOK POV***

***TOTEA VILLAGE, PHUM THMEI COMMUNE, THMA PUOK DISTRICT,  
BANTEAY MEANCHEY PROVINCE***

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In her 28 years old, Ms. Nheok Pov is playing crucial roles in Women Farmer Champion as she is a successful farmer, an active community worker, and a gender promoter. She sees that farming is far better than migration. It is quite noticeable that her farming yield provides a very satisfied yield annually and the animal that she has been raising are all in good condition. All these fruitful results are the advantages she earned through out training. She is so active in her community that she gained quite a convincing support.



**26 YEARS OLD**

**078 978 057**

**“ Women farmers should participate more trainings to advance their skills.**

**”**

# **PHON KIMSOUR**

**PHON VILLAGE, BANTEAY NEANG COMMUNE,  
MONKOL BOREI DISTRICT, BANTEAY MEANCHHEY PROVINCE**

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Knowledge and honesty had made Kimsour become an accountant for her community. At 26 years old, Kimsour, the youngest member in her family, also own a small business at a market aside from farming and raising animal. Despite the fact that she is young and less experience in farming, she has arable land, appropriate water system, and market information which is great advantages for which she could help her family to earn more income from the farming job. Kimsour thinks that the role of Women Farmer Champion forum is quite significant as it encourages women to participate more in social work and to start networking and learn from each other to be a role model in their community.



# **SAMON BOPHA**

*PHNUM PRASAT VILLAGE, OU PRASAT COMMUNE,  
MONGKOL BOREI DISTRICT, BANTEAY MEANCHEY PROVINCE*

---

**33 YEARS OLD**

**097 5547 968**

**“  
Agricultural work is a way  
to decrease migration  
rate, enhancing family’s  
condition, and eliminating  
domestic violence.  
”**

Vegetable and rice farming seem not to make the family get any better due to lacking of farming material and capital to expend the job. However, Ms. Samon Bopha is still motivated and determined to move on with it as she believes that the jobs have helped cut down daily expense in the family, and at the same time, she could also generate incomes. Ms. Bopha has been actively involving in farming related work in her community such as helping lead the saving group. In addition, she holds a strong determination which she will pass her new knowledge of agriculture to her community.



# **CHHIENG KY**

*OU RUESSEI VILLAGE, SAMRAONG COMMUNE,  
SAMRAONG DISTRICT, ODORMEANCHEY PROVINCE*

---

**23 YEARS OLD**

**097 7348 376**

“

**Farmers should  
significantly  
stay focus on their job.**

”

Courage and community contribution along with family motivation made Ms. Chheang Ky be selected to be a farmer representative from Odormeanchey for Women Farmer Champion Forum. Presently, she is a farmer who is mainly working on vegetable farming, animal raising along with a volunteer job as a voluntary community nurse. The motivated factors for her farming career are already has arable land along with motivation from partners NGO who frequently come and build up new knowledge to her community. She plans to enlarge her vegetable farm to fit with the market demand.



**22 YEARS OLD**

**071 9003 006**

**“ We should take time helping the community in anyhow. ”**

# **PEOUT SOPHA**

**VOA YEAV VILLAGE, BENG COMMUNE, BANTEAY AMPIL DISTRICT,  
ODORMEANCHEY PROVINCE**

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Farming is the only job which Sopha’s family has been practiced for generations. Sopha is now 22. Despite the fact that she’s young, Sopha is a very convincing candidate with her divers experiences. She’s a farmer, a midwife nurse at a district health center, and a member of SFC Oxfam America. In agriculture, Ms. Sopha divided 4 hectares of her land for rice farming, 1 hectare for cassava planting, and another acre for vegetable planting. Having sufficient interlocking water system, Ms. Sopha has always been making a good income from farming job. Her cassava yield also meets the market demand. Her courage and hardworking have been a key to make her be a good farmer in the community.





# **RIN KIMHEAN**

***TNOT VILLAGE, BANSAY REAK COMMUNE, SAMRAONG DISTRICT,  
ODORMEANCHEY PROVINCE***

---

**35 YEARS OLD**

**097 3270 959**

“  
**By proper practice  
of modern farming  
techniques, farmers will  
be able to help themselves  
and their community.**

”

Ms. Kimhean seems to rejoice her farming career so much. By practicing updated farming technique, she helps herself and enrich your community at the same time. The yield from rice farming, cassava, and vegetable have lift her family condition up to another level. She loves farming so much since her family has been doing this job since she was young. With her 20 years experience along side with training from Padek organization, her crops provide satisfying yield gradually. With revenue from farming career, she has expended her job to selling noodle, retailer shop, and battery refill. Ms. Kim hean is a model farmer in her community as she always keeps her farming technique up to date. This is a reason that she has been in important role for the forum.



# **ATH SREYNICH**

*KIRIVORN VILLAGE, KOUN KRIEL COMMUNE, SAMRAONG DISTRICT,  
ODORMEANHEY PROVINCE*

---

**19 YEARS OLD**

**096 3913 913**

“

**Women are a key  
to develop community.**

”

Knowledge and honesty have pushed Sreynich that far into Women Farmer Champion. At her 19 years old, Sreynich is one of the youngest community active member of her community. She is very engaging in her community work as she usually shares what she has been through trainings to her villagers. She is very positive in what she doing; consequently, she earns great yield result from her farm. Presently, she is farming on 3 hectares of land, 2 of the 3 ha uses for rice farming and the rest for cassava planation.

Aside from farming career, she's also a grocery retailer at a town market in Odormeanchey.



**32 YEARS OLD**

**097 2146 805**

**“  
New planting technique  
is a way to  
high yielding crops.  
”**

# **YORN PALLY**

***THNAL BAEK VILLAGE, THMEI COMMUNE, KULEAEN DISTRICT,  
PREAH VIHEAR PROVINCE***

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“I will try my best to be a role model of modern technique planation for the next generation,” said the committed Yorn Phally. The modern techniques have significantly increased her family income for the past 6 years that previously the traditional method could barely give her spare income. Her commitment building saving group and lead it to a successful path, which provided financing capital to the members, earns her a great support from her community. In addition, she has been voluntarily working on building community farmers on modern technique of plating crop and the importance of food nutrition in the village. She is a convincing candidate who pays very close attention to agriculture and concerning on community’s livelihood.



**42 YEARS OLD**

**097 6671 541**

**“ Everyone needs food  
and this is the priceless  
value of farming.**

# **LEAM SANGIM**

***KULEAENG CHEUNG VILLAGE, KULEAEN CHEUNG COMMUNE,  
KULEAEN DISTRICT, PRAEH VIHEAR PROVINCE***

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The 42-year-old Sagnim is not merely a farmer but role model farmer. She has been putting her personal time into community work where she once was a volunteer kindergarten school teacher. At the same time, she has been working hard to keep her farming techniques up-to-date throughout joining training and forums. Previously, she had switched her rice farming to raising pigs, but after she was trained to employed modern farming techniques and produced compost fertilizer, her crops yield better gradually and turned into a very flourished result. She said she is happy to farm because it is where **”** she feels she belongs to and it is one way she could be part to prosper her community.



# SUM YEOUN

*BOS VILLAGE, PHNUM PENH COMMUNE,  
KULEAEN DISTRICT, PRAEH VIHEAR PROVINCE*

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48 YEARS OLD

071 6775 531

“  
Keep updating farming  
techniques to move  
beyond higher yield  
”

Farming is the one and only job for her family. However, things seem not going so well. Having no proper source of water which she had to drain from here and there, lacking of seeds, farming material and skills, and low financing resource have haunted her farming condition for years. She is now receiving training on farming technique, and how to seek for effective financing support. She wishes to put what she has learnt into action and hope these would increase her family condition. With her experience and new knowledge, she believes she could move forward to a better situation in the short future.



# ***HOUN BUNNAN***

*KULEAENG TBOUNG VILLAGE, KULEAEN TBOUNG COMMUNE,  
KULEAEN DISTRICT, PREAH VIHEAR PROVINCE*

---

*49 YEARS OLD*

*097 7378 531*

“

**Work persistently, and  
some day your  
effort will be paid off.**

”

Living near the border where geography is less fit for farming, Ms. Bunnan has never thought of giving up the job thought encountering many problems. Drought, insufficient water sources, financing, and less market information are all obstacles to farmers. Rice farming is a main income for her whole family. After being trained from agricultural department on using fertilizer, enriching land, and practice high yielding seeds, her patch of land provides increasing result. Her hardworking, honesty, and sharing culture are way to put her into one of the representative farmer from Preah Vihear province. She encourage all the farmers across the nation to work hard and to try figuring out solution and never give up.

# THE MEKONG REGION



The Mekong region features Kampong Cham, Ratanakiri, Monduliri, Kratié and Stung Treng. The environment in the Mekong basin is ideal for agriculture with 80 per cent<sup>3</sup> of the population working in farming.

Kampong Cham province has the highest potential for agricultural out-put, home to many fruit crops and rubber plantations. The basin's natural irrigation system and nutritious soil means that 85 per cent of the residents in Stung Treng Province can rely on agriculture, raising animal and weaving silk for their livelihoods. Monduliri and Ratanakiri Province are home to indigenous Cambodians who are able to practice traditional farming methods to support their communities.

<sup>3</sup>Kampong Cham Province. Municipality and Province Investment Information.



# ***KHEOM SOKHORN***

*TREA COMMUNE, KROUCH CHHMAR DISTRICT,  
KAMPONG CHAM PROVINCE*

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**43 YEARS OLD**

**097 6213 755**

“

**Being a farmer is a  
freedom and it's way  
better than a risk  
migration.**

”

From Kompong Cham province, Ms. Sokhorn says insects is the only problem having on her farming job right now. To her, farming job is a heavy job and requires patient. She's been sharing and consulting with the other farmer to seek for solution to enrich the farming production. Aside from this, she devotes some of her time joining training thing like climate change resilience. In the family of 5 people, her family live together happily. Farming is not only a job but it's also a childhood memory as she has been doing it since her teenage. Currently, she is working on rice farming, raising cows, and plating vegetable.





# MAO SAM ONN

*RO'ANG COMMUNE, KAMPONG SIEM DISTRICT,  
KAMPONG CHAM PROVINCE*

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*27 YEARS OLD*

*096 9034 657*

“

**Women should help  
each other  
and spare sometime  
working voluntarily  
for a better community.**

”

The 27-year-old Mao Sam Onn, from Kompong Cham province, is currently joining military force in Phnom Penh. Having been voluntarily working against domestic violence, human trafficking, and other women’s issues, she has a well understanding of the status quo of women in community. For agriculture sector, she thinks that women are playing tremendous role as they do not only directly involve in farming but also responsible for household work. She thinks that the sector in Cambodia is yet to improve as many farmers are still struggling with financing and technical issue.



**59 YEARS OLD**

**017 756 115**

**“ Farmers should equip themselves with new knowledge and be aware of the current method of farming. ”**

# **SEAN HOY**

**TREA COMMUNE, KROUCH CHHMAR DISTRICT,  
KAMPONG CHAM PROVINCE**

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From a retailer at the town market to a farmer, Ms. Hoy enjoys doing farming so much now. She thinks that the job is fit to her age now. Owning a family vegetable farm, at her 59 years old, Ms. Hoy frequently shares her successful vegetable farming experience to her community. With her active involvement in the community, she was finally selected to be a part of Women farmer champion. With the forum, she broadens her understanding on such issues as water, financing, and market information. She believes that all these are the key to empower the farmers' situation. Recently, the concerning of her community is on the irregularity of rain water, and she wishes the discussion in the forum would shade some light to deal with this.



**34 YEARS OLD**

**071 3549 666**

“

**Practicing organic farming techniques is to ensure food security.**

”

# ***KHENG POV***

**BOS ROKA VILLAGE, DOUNTEI COMMUNE, PONHEA KRAEK DISTRICT,  
TBONG KHMUM PROVINCE**

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Ms. Kheng Pov is now a happy farmer since farming has turned her family condition for the better. She's been working on farming job for 19 years now. She's been working hard and showing great result in her community work along with good collaboration and honesty. She is also a part of the successful saving group and agricultural product group in her community. She says the Women Farmer Champion is a window broadening her knowledge along with new experience and techniques which she could share to her community onward.



**25 YEARS OLD**

**016 616 243**

**“ Farmers should be networking and exchanging market information for a better tomorrow. ”**

# **CHAK PANHA**

***SLAB KDAONG VILLAGE, CHOB COMMUNE,  
TBOUNG KHMUM DISTRICT, TBONG KHMUM PROVINCE***

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A charming and young farmer Chak Panha holds the belief that farmers could be better off if they know how to network and to exchange market information with one another. She adores the farming job so much because she thinks that farming provides people food and at the same time, she could also generate income though it. Despite the fact that she is positive on the moving track of agriculture sector in the country, she wishes to see further improvement on that too. She hopes there will be small and medium agricultural enterprise or factory set up in community where farmers could sell their farming products with a better price.



# ET THARY

*PREA EK A CHI COMMUNE, KROUCH CHHMAR DISTRICT,  
TBONG KHMUM PROVINCE*

---

**45 YEARS OLD**

**015 512 286**

“

**The development of  
agriculture will scale  
down the migration rate.**

”

Living along riverside, Ms. Thary has been planting tomato, corn, and bean for years. She thinks that farming is significantly connected to people's life. With her 10 years as head of community, Ms. Thary notices a lot of farmers' difficulties – water resource and financing. For instance, the low level of water in the river last years led to 30% yield decrease. So far, she has been organizing monthly meeting to consult and share experience with NGOs who help the community. She thinks that rural farmers have low access to information, so such meetings are important.



# CHIN SOKUNTHOR

*AHJEN VILLAGE, KAMPONG CHAM COMMUNE,  
SAMBOUR DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE*

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**60 YEARS OLD**

**088 5375 267**

“  
**Women farmers can be a  
change agent for a  
better agriculture sector  
once they network.**

Confidence, maturity, and experience in farming are best words describe Ms. Sokunthor. She has been working on farming job since she was young. Previously, she holds a negative thought that women are not be able to do anything like men. Now the Women Farmer Forum has completely altered her perspective. She now believes that women can network, share, and work with related sector to improve agricultural sector in the country. Through out the forum, she believes that the networking from women across the country will be something to the agriculture of the nation.

”



# CHOUN PEARIN

*KANHCHOR VILLAGE, KANHCHOR COMMUNE,  
CHHLOUNG DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE*

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**36 YEARS OLD**

**097 6759 622**

**“ Availability of water,  
financing source,  
and market information  
will lift up farmers’  
motivation.**

“What could be done when farmers encounter such problems as financing source or market information?” This question has always been pop up in her mind as a reminder. As a farmer, Phearin, 36, always pays close attention to market information and raising animals. Currently, the market price of agriculture product come to a stagnation which demotivates farmers with the job. Aside from being a farmer, she is also a committee member of development in her community. She believes that the number of migrants would be decrease if the Cambodia has a wide market for agriculture products.



# **MEAK SOPHAT**

***KBAL KOH VILLAGE, KOH TRUNG COMMUNE,  
CHETR BOREI DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE***

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***43 YEARS OLD***

***071 7927 520***

“

**There should be provision of high yielding seeds to farmer.**

”

At her 43 years old, Sophat is now planting vegetable and raising cows and buffalo. To her, the job is a fantastic job as it provides food to feed the world and there is also something new to learn and grow. At the same time, she suggests there should be more training courses focusing on planting vegetable. Because it could increase farmers' income easily though they have small patch of land.





# YIN SOMON

*KEK VILLAGE, CHROUY BANTEAY COMMUNE,  
PREK PRASAB DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE*

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*64 YEARS OLD*

*097 9404 100*

“  
**Farmers should help  
share market information  
to increase the  
yielding price.**

”

Self development and culture of sharing have earned Ms. Somon with such a great support from her community. Not just a farmer, Ms. Somon is an active person who always put intervention on domestic violence and other abuses. She thinks that farming job is a way to improve the community and farmers themselves as it helps create job and fight against poverty. After the forum she believes there will be a comprehensive market information coming form all the network across the country and this will be a platform for discussion and experience sharing too.



**23 YEARS OLD**

**097 9404 100**

**“ Agriculture is very tiring,  
but you’ll be happy  
when harvesting. ”**

# **TONG CHANTHY**

***SRETHMEY VILLAGE, KSEM COMMUNE, SNOUL DISTRICT,  
KRATIE PROVINCE***

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Ms Chanthy’s family has traditionally relied on vegetable and rice farming as well as raising livestock as their main source of income. Ms Chanthy said while land and water resources are important for successful farming, technical skills can significantly improve the production capacity of the farm and in turn the family income. Previously Ms Chanthy’s three-hectare farm had an annual harvest of about eight tons of rice, but after receiving training on new techniques such as SRI and insect repellents the annual rice harvest reached twenty tons. After her personal success implementing improved farming techniques Ms Chanthy has encouraged others in the community to do the same and has been a resourceful contact to share valuable knowledge about the new skills.



# **SONG CHANDAI**

***KOMPON VILLAGE, KOMPON COMMUNE, SESAN DISTRICT,  
STEUNG TRENG PROVINCE***

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***36 YEARS OLD***

***088 5560 813***

**“**

***Farmers should  
understand a market  
demand and make  
plan for their family.***

**”**

Ms Chandai believes a non-violent harmonious environment is important for family and community happiness but also highlights the importance of a steady income. Farming has improved her family’s living condition and Ms Chandai now earns enough of a profit to pay for nutritious food, daily living expenses and her children’s school fees. Ms Chandai said she was motivated to work in agriculture to ensure the food she serves her family isn’t full of chemicals and pesticides. As part of her work as village secretary Ms Chandai has worked with gender issues, slowed the migration of youth leaving to find work, limited family violence and worked to ensure conflict resolutions in the community.



*60 YEARS OLD*

*097 8602 847*

“ **Farmers should use all the land they have available for agriculture.**

# **HIM IN**

*HAM KHO SOUN VILLAGE, SAMAKY COMMUNE, STEUNG TRENG DISTRICT,  
STEUNG TRENG PROVINCE*

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As a farmer and agricultural retailer in her community Ms. In is involved with the entirety of the produce production process. Ms. In has over thirty years experience in the industry and has seen both the financial challenges and benefits farming can produce. Farming has improved her family’s living condition and she says the agriculture sector has positively contributed to the community’s economic development. Ms. In’s business stocks both produce and livestock and she has experience in farming a variety of products such as corn, beans, sesame, chickens and ducks. Ms. In was selected as a candidate of the Women Farmer Champions forum because of her knowledge, marketing skills and extensive experience in the industry.



# **HUERN KHAMPHAI**

*SAMKHOUY VILLAGE, SAMKHOUY COMMUNE, SESAM DISTRICT,  
STEUNG TRENG PROVINCE*

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**36 YEARS OLD**

**097 8877 317**

**“ Farmers can help themselves and grow their business by seeking new knowledge.**

**”**

As the owner of a small organic farm Ms Khamphai says her business is as financially profitable and sustainable. Ms Khamphai has over seventeen years experience in the industry and specializes in growing vegetables and plants such as spinach. She said people should be more aware that organic farming, which does not use chemical fertilizer, is beneficial to individual's health. Ms. Khamphai says the Women Farmer Champions forum increased her knowledge about markets and new farming techniques and that she can now identify which fertilizers are best for the crops. Ms Khamphai is said she is hoping to expand her farm to include an increased variety of vegetables, chickens, ducks and fish.



# CHAN LEOURN

*SRE POK TOUCH VILLAGE, SEREYMONKUL COMMUNE,  
KONKROMOM DISTRICT, RATANAKIRI PROVINCE*

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**54 YEARS OLD**  
**071 4943 305**

“

**Working together is  
the best way to  
solve community issues.**

”

Ms Leourn's farm is in the northeast of Cambodia where climate and geographical elements limit the production capacity of the agricultural products. Ms Leourn says changes in the climate make it difficult to grow rice and vegetables to a high standard but the farm remains the main source of income to support her family. Participation in local farming and development groups has improved Ms Leourn's knowledge on how to deal with the issues and she is positive that discussions between farmers and sharing information can improve the situation.



# VANN SOKHIM

*BOUN VILLAGE, TROPANG CHRES COMMUNE, KON KROMOM DISTRICT,  
RATANAKIRI PROVINCE*

*51 YEARS OLD*

*071 6971 006*

“  
**Farmers should seek  
clear market  
information so that they  
can sell their products  
at the right price.**”

Ms Sokhim is committed to sharing her experiences with the community to encourage other women to strive to start their own businesses. With no family land or money Ms Sokhim started work as a labourer on other's farms to earn an income. The minimal benefits of the work motivated Ms Sokhim to access funding to start her own small farm. With support from NGO, Development and Partnership in Action, Ms Sokhim received education about cropping techniques and farming tools which have expanded her business and significantly increased her income. Ms Sokhim has recently been able to afford to buy land for a house and to further expand her business. Ms Sokhim said the forum increased her knowledge and motivation to continue her work with the local farming community.



**52 YEARS OLD**

**097 9295 714**

“

**Please all farmers try to practice the technique from the training in order to improve their family's economy and community.**

”

# **SUN SONY**

***POY COMMUNE, OU JUM DISTRICT, RATANAKIRI PROVINCE***

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With more than ten years experience farming cashew trees Ms Sony said it is clear that the successful farmers are the ones that continue to find solutions to issues and don't give up. Ms Sony said she has experienced issues with irregular rain and a low market price of her products but that there were always solutions to be found through discussions with other farmers and NGOs. As her own knowledge developed about increasing product production and the benefit of natural fertilizers Ms Sony has shared her experiences with the community.





**33 YEARS OLD**

**097 3084 865**

“

**The government and NGOs should pay attention to farmers.**

”

# **NGACH NARIN**

**CHHOB VILLAGE, DAKDAM COMMUNE, OURANG DISTRICT,  
MONDULKIRI PROVINCE**

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Ms Narin said her family farm's rural location in an eastern province of Cambodia made it difficult to access market information and improve farming techniques. Ms Narin said agriculture is very important in rural areas as it remains the main source of income but that it was difficult to improve her family's living condition because of minimal profits. Ms Narin said growing her own vegetables was a way to ensure the vegetables her family ate were chemical free. The forum provided Ms Narin the opportunity to learn about market prices so she could be aware of the standard monetary worth of her products and sell them for a maximum profit.



# SOMPON SRON

*CHHOB VILLAGE, DAKDAM COMMUNE, OURANG DISTRICT,  
MONDULKIRI PROVINCE*

**38 YEARS OLD**

**088 6861 938**

“  
**All farmers should follow  
up about new techniques  
in farming and  
market information.**  
”

Ms Sron said farmers in her community were facing difficult challenges with agriculture production and were lacking knowledge of new farming techniques. Her community works together to farm vegetables but they are unable to increase the market price making it difficult to earn and share a profit. Ms Sron is looking forward to connecting with other female farmers across the country to share her communities experience and learn more about effective farming techniques and market prices.



# HAM MARI

*CHAMKATE VILLAGE, SPEANMEANCHEY COMMUNE,  
SENMONOROM DISTRICT, MODULKIRI PROVINCE*

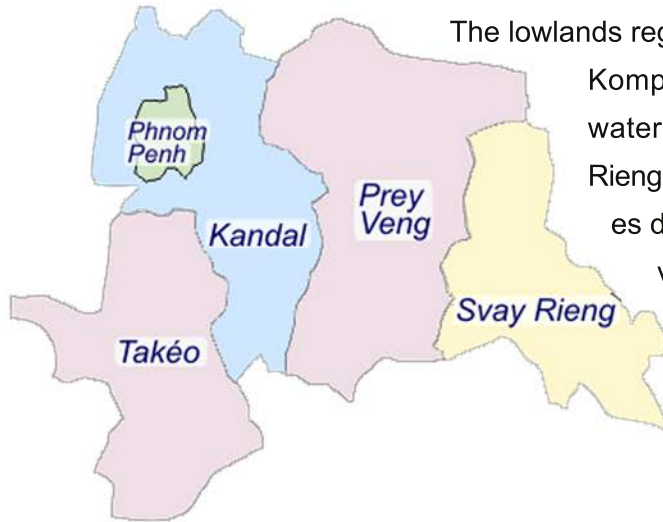
*64 YEARS OLD*

*092 919 500*

**I want the Women  
Farmer Champions Forum  
to continue so that  
female farmers can learn  
more and follow  
the training.**

Ms Mari has worked in agriculture for almost 10 years and today specialises in farming avocados and oranges. Affording her children's education was Ms Mari's original motivation to begin working in the industry and her farming achievements meant she was a thoughtful source of information at the Women Farmer Champions forum. Ms Mari said she has faced many challenges over her farming career, such as minimal profits from the products, but that research has helped her to overcome the issues and she now sells her products for a high price. Ma Mari said NGO training has helped her prepare plans for the future of her farm and improve her skills and networks with other female farmers.

# LOWLANDS REGION



The lowlands region consists of Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kandal, Takeo and Kompong Speu. The Mekong river system provides accessible water and rich soil that benefits the agriculture industry in Svay Rieng, Prey Veng and Kandal. The economy in these three provinces depends on agriculture, fishing and planting. Prey Veng province produces an average of one million tons<sup>4</sup> of rice per year but this is dependent on rainfall. Takeo province is referred to as the rice bowl of Cambodia with around 28 thousand<sup>5</sup> hectares cultivated for rice production.

<sup>4</sup> Prey Veng Province. Municipality and Province Investment Information.

<sup>5</sup> Takeo Province. Municipality and Province Investment Information.



# KAO SOKKHEA

*CHOMBOK THOM VILLAGE, BRAMBAY MUM COMMUNE,  
PORNG DISTRICT, KOMPONG SPEU*

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*28 YEARS OLD*

*097 8901 944*

“

**Farmers should try  
and work together  
because nothing is more  
important than  
our agriculture.**

”

Training on agricultural techniques, natural fertilizers and efficient water use significantly improved the living conditions of Ms Sokkhea's family. Ms Sokkhea works as a farmer, commune council assistant and head of the women's group in the village and is committed to community development. Ms Sokkhea said she established the women's group in the village to increase the communication of issues and solutions between the farmers. Ms Sokkhea's motivation and drive to establish networks between female farmers made her an important part of the Women Farmer Champions forum.



# CHET CHHENA

*DERM PDEAK VILLAGE, TRENG TRO YEOUNG COMMUNE,  
PHNOM SRUCH DISTRICT, KOMPONG SPEU*

---

**47 YEARS OLD**

**088 5780 295**

“

**Farming and raising  
livestock can  
reduce poverty.” are  
ways to reduce  
poverty and  
earn income for life.**

”

Ms Chhena is the head of her village agricultural group committee and has increased the participation from the community to improve the local sector. The cooperation between the members of the agricultural group and other community committees has improved with Ms Chhena's leadership as she has encouraged increased communication between the different groups. Ms Chhena's experience successfully implementing new techniques at her farm has encouraged others to do the same and the new skills have increased the efficiency of many local farms. With the increased product output Ms Chhena found new markets for the community to sell the produce and her the improvements in her community inspired many at the Women Farmer Champions forum.



# MEAS SOPHEAP

*KRANG LAHONG VILLAGE, MORHA SANG COMMUNE,  
PHNOM SROCH DISTRICT, KOMPONG SPEU*

---

**46 YEARS OLD**

**015 735 968**

**“ Farming communities should create Saving Groups, rice banks, fertilizer producing groups and any other support networks to benefit their community.**

**”**

Ms Sopheap is part of a family of farmers and agriculture production has shaped her lifestyle. Farming knowledge and skills have been passed down through the generations of her family but Ms Sopheap is committed to updating the traditional practices. Access to land, natural fertilizers from the farm animals and availability of water resources throughout both the dry and wet season have sustained the farm and supported her family's health and finances. Outside of the family business Ms Sopheap works to strengthen the community as a representative for the rice bank. Ms Sopheap said the most important work is promoting people to join the meetings and available training to improve their farming skills.



# LIM NOU

*DEY CHHANG VILLAGE, HOR SOMNONG COMMUNE,  
ORAL DISTRICT, KOMPONG SPEU PROVINCE*

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**32 YEARS OLD**

**088 9091 800**

**“ We should help each other with agriculture, family work, and the community.**

**”**

Farming provided an opportunity for Ms Nou to support her family without having to migrate from her province for work. Her farm has now supported her family's finances and food supply for over sixteen years. Ms Nou said she believes her products are of high quality because she makes sure to use chemical free fertilizer and continues to update her farming practice. Ms Nou is the secretary for her community agricultural committee and said that sharing farming experiences between communities is important to improve the overall situation of farmers throughout the country. Ms Nou is committed to sharing the information she learnt at the forum with her community to improve their knowledge of financial aid, market information and efficient water use.





**45 YEARS OLD**

**097 8060 570**

“

**Farmer's are the rice  
producers for the world.**

”

# **SOK SARETH**

***PHEA RIB SETH VILLAGE, TROPANG THLONG COMMUNE,  
POR SETH DISTRICT, KOMPONG SPEU***

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Introducing new techniques to raise animals, chose fertilizer and produced compost increased Ms Sareth's farm production. Ms Sareth is a member of the commune council and travels between villages to share information about these new techniques and the development of the saving group to the commune's villages. Ms Sareth said the Women Farmer Champions forum changed her view on women's participation in communities and now believes women should have a much stronger voice. Ms Sareth said she hopes the forum organisers will push government and development partners to focus on improving the situation of female farmers and that the farmers' will be committed to improving their knowledge to empower their position in the industry.



# ***HUY THARIN***

***OTAPONG VILLAGE, ROKA KORS COMMUNE,  
KONG PISEY DISTRICT, KOMPONG SPEU PROVINCE***

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***59 YEARS OLD***

***017 749 763***

**“  
Farmer should discuss  
and share ideas  
with each other.  
”**

After struggling to produce a financially viable annual yield Ms Tharin thought of migrating for work. However, after joining NGO training about making compost and practicing the new technique on her farm the production rate improved and she can now sell her products at the market. Ms Tharin supplements her palm sugar farm as a baker, cooking traditional Khmer cakes for community ceremonies.



# ***KHEM NOUN***

*SAM PLEA VILLAGE, PREY KLA COMMUNE, KOH ONDET DISTRICT,  
TAKEO PROVINCE*

---

**31 YEARS OLD**

**071 7663 826**

“

**Time is valuable and farmers should use their time effectively.**

”

Ms Noun said being busy comes with the farming lifestyle but believes farmers should commit time to learning new skills that make their farms more effective. Ms Noun is from a large family, and farming meant an increased resource of rice and vegetables to support her family’s health. Her success in raising livestock is one of the reasons she is representing her community at the Women Farmer Champions forum and Ms Noun says she wants to promote farming education among women.



**39 YEARS OLD**

**012 268 160**

“

**Women are as  
capable as men.**

”

# **NHEM SOVANNARY**

***POR PREAH SONG VILLAGE, TAKEM COMMUNE, TRAM KORK DISTRICT,  
TAKEO PROVINCE***

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Ms Sovannary's organic farming skills have produced high quality vegetables and livestock that have made her a role model in the community. Ms Sovannary has taken part in 61 study tours to improve her knowledge and her use of non-chemical fertilizers and natural farming practices were recognised with an award from CEDAC. Ms Sovannary said she wants all farmers to understand the importance of agriculture because that is what feeds the world.



# MEAS MITHONA

*CHHRE VILLAGE, CHI KLA COMMUNE, TRANG DISTRICT, TAKEO PROVINCE*

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**36 YEARS OLD**

**097 5410 847**

**“Farmers should not give up their farms because they benefit their families and communities.”**

Over the past fifteen years Ms Mithona has faced productivity issues at her farm because of natural disasters and insect issues. Recently training has given her more confidence and ideas of how to deal with the problems as they occur and she says her income already seems more stable. Ms Mithona said just as she is committed to learning about new farming skills and techniques she is committed to sharing this information with her family and community.

”



# PHY PHOL

*PRASAT VILLAGE, KRANG LEAV COMMUNE, BATIE DISTRICT,  
TAKEO PROVINCE*

---

**49 YEARS OLD**

**017 620 319**

“

**Farming can help  
increase income.**

”

Krang Leav commune has natural resources ideal for farming and Ms Phol says the community has used the resources more efficiently since they received training about sustainable farming. Ms Phol is the leader of the saving group association in the village, part of the management team for the kindergarten and a focal point for Red Cross Cambodia to promote health and sanitation. Ms Phol said the Women Farmers Champion forum was an exciting opportunity to motivate female farmers to participate more in agriculture.



# HUY VANNAK

*PEY VILLAGE, THNOUT COMMUNE, BATIE DISTRICT, TAKEO PROVINCE*

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**37 YEARS OLD**

**077 701 047**

“ **Agriculture helps us to earn a profit for our family and health.**

As the eldest sister in the family Ms Vannak left school at a young age for work, to contribute to the family's finances. Ms Vannak said she loves working in the agricultural industry, particularly now she has taken part in NGO training courses that have improved her skills and the farms productivity. She was selected as chairman for the community saving group and says she uses the position to encourage other women to participate in farming. Ms Vannak said the Women Farmer Champions forum provided fresh motivation for empowering women in the industry.



# **CHUM SARUM**

**TA SKOR VILLAGE, SARIKAKEO COMMUNE, LVEA AEM DISTRICT,  
KANDAL PROVINCE**

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**40 YEARS OLD**

**085 313 591**

“

**Women should  
participate in agriculture,  
manage their income,  
and find markets.**

”

Ms Sarum started working in the industry in 2007 without funds or land for her own farm. Ms Sarum said a farming association was founded in her commune and she was selected to participate in the training for planting productivity and received a loan from the group to support her living costs while she started practicing the new skills. Ms Sarum is heavily involved in community work and says women need to be brave and join social groups to normalise equal gender rights.





# ***BU OEURN***

*LAVEA SOR LER VILLAGE, LAVEA SOR COMMUNE, LVEA AEM DISTRICT,  
KANDAL PROVINCE*

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**68 YEARS OLD**

**093 475 729**

“

**Funding is the first  
resource you need  
to increase  
produce production.**

”

Ms Oeurn said capital is necessary to develop a farming career. The importance of financial aid availability for farmers motivated Ms Oeurn to start the community saving group and promote female farmers' involvement. Farming has supported her family for almost twenty years and Ms Oeurn regularly gives up her time to help younger farmers with their techniques. Ms Oeurn hopes to expand her farm with the profits earned through rice production and the saving group.



# CHHUM SREY

*CHERNG TERK VILLAGE, RON DOMREY COMMUNE,  
BA PHNOM DISTRICT, PREY VENG PROVINCE*

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**44 YEARS OLD**

**016 534 933**

“  
**All farmers should not  
give up their farm.**

”

Ms Srey said her life changed after participating in development training with Chet Thor Organisation. Ms Srey said the training improved her knowledge of livestock and as her own farming experience increased so did the productivity. She was elected Chairman of the Agricultural Association of Ron Domrey commune because of her commitment to the work and entrepreneurial leadership is testing new techniques that have benefited the whole community. Ms Srey's participation in community work and willingness to share her experiences and knowledge made her an ideal candidate for the Women Farmer Champions forum.



**45 YEARS OLD**

**096 773 481**

**“ We should understand the market demand to benefit our rice productivity. ”**

# **REM YEAB**

***CHERNG TERK VILLAGE, RON DOMREY COMMUNE,  
BA PHNOM DISTRICT, PREY VENG***

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Ms Yeab is from a poor family and says she has only recently seen the benefits of farming. Prey Veng, where Ms Yeab lives, has the suitable resources for agricultural work but she says that before the training her hard work was hardly supporting her family or children’s education. After participating in trainings through local NGOs Ms Yeab says her farming skills are much more effective and the networks she formed through the saving group and self-help group in the community supported the transition to the use of different techniques.



# SON SAMER

*CHERONG VILLAGE, RON DOMREY COMMUNE,  
BA PHNOM DISTRICT, PREY VENG*

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**33 YEARS OLD**

**096 6005 871**

“  
**Sharing ideas,  
experiences  
and discussing issues  
are ways to improve  
farmers’ knowledge.**

”

Ms Samer commits most of her time to community development, working with NGOs to strengthen the community’s agriculture production ability and gender equality. Ms Samer says Cambodia heavily depends on rice exports which highlights the vital role of farmers for the country’s economy. She believes confidence in farming jobs decreases migration from the rural communities and in turn that increases community livelihood. She believes the platform for discussion at the Women Farmer Champions forum will be vital to share knowledge and new information about key farming practices to regional communities.



# ***SUO SAMEOURN***

*KONLENG CHREV VILLAGE, KRO CHAO COMMUNE,  
KOMJAY MEA DISTRICT, PREY VENG*

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*59 YEARS OLD*

*092 562 808*

“

**Natural fertilizer is  
important in agriculture.**

”

The rice productivity of Ms Sameourn’s farm increased significantly after taking part in training on new farming techniques. Originally the rice her farm produced was hardly enough to support herself with a small amount left to sell at the market, but now she earns enough profit to support vegetable planting and raising 200 chickens. Ms Sameourn says the Women Farmers Champion forum will be an opportunity to increase creativity of farming techniques and expanding their small businesses.



# **OEURN SABON**

*KDEY DOUNG VILLAGE, RON DOMREY COMMUNE,  
BA PHNOM DISTRICT, PREY VENG*

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**42 YEARS OLD**

**077 743 134**

“

**Farmers are  
essential  
to the agricultural  
industry.**

”

Farming is the main occupation of Ms Sabon’s family and she says despite the limited income associated with farming, the agricultural industry is very important in Cambodian society. Ms Sabon was chosen to represent Prey Veng because of her willingness to test new farming techniques and her commitment to stopping gender violence. Ms Sabon says she wants all women to understand more about the laws that support them so they can strengthen their position in society.



# ***PENH SOK***

*TROUK VILLAGE, KOMPONG CHOMLONG COMMUNE,  
SVAY CHRUM DISTRICT, SVAY RIENG*

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***59 YEARS OLD***

***097 6937 901***

**“  
New farming  
techniques help increase  
productivity and reduce  
the physical  
labour of farmers.  
”**

The lack of affordable labour is a challenge for Ms Sok who is unable to expand her farm land by herself. She says rice farming is a physically tough job, particularly during the harvest season but that new farming skills have increased her productivity. Ms Sok says farmers need to understand the importance of developing their skills as the farming conditions change with the climate. Ms Sok says she excited to share the knowledge she learnt at the forum with her community.



# UY SON

*TA NOU VILLAGE, CHAMBOK COMMUNE, SVAY CHRUM DISTRICT,  
SVAY RIENG*

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**41 YEARS OLD**

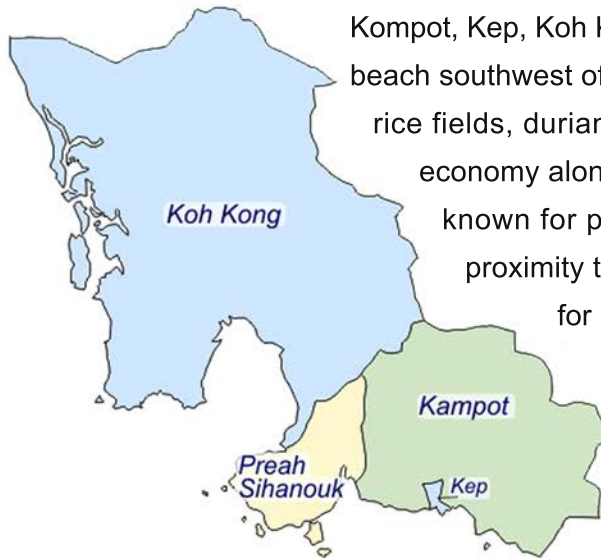
**097 8695 646**

**“ Farmers should work hard to overcome difficulties so they can be happy in the future. ”**

Food safety is what motivates Ms Son to work in the agricultural industry. As a farmer she has direct control and knowledge of the chemicals used throughout the production process. Farming is her family’s main source of income and Ms Son is worried that as a female she is not heard when she expresses her concerns. Ms Son says the opportunity to connect with other female farmers at the forum is the first step towards getting support from local authorities and institutions to improve how women are viewed in the agriculture industry.



# COASTAL REGION



Kompot, Kep, Koh Kong and Preah Sihanouk make up the Coastal region. The beach southwest of Kampot has an abundance of natural resources. Fishing, rice fields, durian gardens and salt fields are the main contributors to the economy alongside the coastal tourist attractions. Sihanouk Ville is well known for pepper farming, and coconut oil production as well as its proximity to the Gulf of Thailand that makes it a key economic region for Cambodia.



# CHHAEM THEA

*HAKREY TIN VILLAGE, PREK THNONG COMMUNE, TERK CHHU DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

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**31 YEARS OLD**

**097 7948 654**

**“ Farmers should join saving groups so they can access grants to improve their farms.” order to get grant for their productivity.**

**”**

Ms Thea believes money is important for effective farming. The cost of farming equipment, fertilizer and irrigation systems is expensive and money is necessary for maintenance as well as expansion. Ms Thea was crucial in establishing the saving group that provides small grants to farmers in her community and is now the group book keeper. She says networking between farmers is important as those in the same industry can discuss the challenges and find solutions. Ms Thea says she is looking forward to being part of the network created by the Women Farmer Champions forum.



**29 YEARS OLD**

**071 2711 837**

**“ Farmers should use methods of planting that use less chemical products. ”**

# **CHHEANG THEURY**

**ANGLONG PARK PRANG VILLAGE, STEUNG KEO COMMUNE,  
TERK CHHU DISTRICT, KAMPOT**

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Ms Thoery is concerned with the quality of vegetables and agricultural products available at the markets and says people should be more aware of the chemicals they are consuming. She says the Women Farmer Champions forum will be an important platform to ensure everyone is working to a high standard and producing chemical free, safe food that does not negatively affect individual's health. Ms Thoery has been farming for ten years and says her family benefits from her work as even if it is a slow day at the market, there is nutritious food available to feed her family.



# CHHUN KLOUT

*OPORPEL VILLAGE, DOMNAK KONTOUT COMMUNE,  
KOMPONG TRACH DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

**46 YEARS OLD**

**092 279 424**

“

**Women are  
important in agriculture.**

”

Ms Klout is a focal point for her community and has entrepreneurial aspirations for her family and the community to expand their farms and increase productivity by implementing modern farming skills. Currently Ms Klout has a small fish farm, vegetable garden and uses rice intensification methods to increase the production capacity of her rice field. Ms Klout said she has joined training about producing compost, bio-gas, and raising animals and that she then mentors the community members to disseminate the new skills.





# SOCH CHENDA

*TA TENG VILLAGE, CHRES COMMUNE, CHUM KIRI DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

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**30 YEARS OLD**

**088 9314 282**

“  
**Farmer should join  
community work and to  
strengthen the  
community.**

”

Ms Chenda is a teacher, employee of a medical company, and owns a beauty salon but says her farm remains the focus of her work. Ms Chenda has created ten saving groups and continues to educate students about agricultural issues. Her commitment to community activities and business are why she was selected to represent her community at the Women Farmer Champions forum.



# ***KOL SOPHORN***

*TROPANG BEOUNG VILLAGE, TRO MEA COMMUNE, CHOUK DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

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***29 YEARS OLD***

***088 8361 436***

“

**Farmers should  
work hard in farming.**

”

Ms Sophorn has worked in the agricultural industry for eleven years, since learning about rice production from her parents. The rice farm is the main source of food and income for her family and Ms Sophorn says after taking part in training the productivity and profit of the farm significantly increased. Ms Sophorn said after she was selected to attend the forum the community started to recognise her efforts in farming development.



# **DEAB SREY OUN**

*ANG KJAY VILLAGE, DAM KORM COMMUNE,  
ANGKOR CHEY DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

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**30 YEARS OLD**

**097 7238 910**

**“ Farmers should join as many training sessions as possible with NGOs and the agricultural ministry. ”**

Ms Sreyoun had worked in the farming sector for over fifteen years and says she will continue her agricultural work alongside her position as a teacher. Ms Sreyoun was introduced to farming by her parents and has continued to update her skills for raising livestock with NGO training on new methods. She says the training has resulted in the improved health of her animals and productivity of the farm. Ms Sreyoun is the secretary in the local community saving group and has previously received grants from the group.



**41 YEARS OLD**

**092 885 967**

**“ Farmers should try to find new methods to develop their farming.**

**”**

# **NOB SARIN**

***PREY KRANG VILLAGE, MEAN RITH COMMUNE,  
BEONG TONG DISTRICT, KAMPOT***

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Ms Sarin is the Chair of the Women Farmer’s Network and says her contact with many of the female farmers in the region has highlighted the main issues. She said the lack of water is the most pressing problem and that an improved irrigation system would benefit many farmers in the communities. Ms Sarin is the secretary of the organic farming group in her community and hopes to connect with the provincial government to encourage a focus on providing irrigation systems to rural communities.





# **HAK MENG**

*DOUNG VILLAGE, SRE SDOK COMMUNE, CHUM KIRI DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

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**33 YEARS OLD**

**096 847 1994/071 818 72 33**

“

**Increased skills in farming will help increase the income of the family.**

”

Ms Meng was selected as the Vice-Chairman of the community farming association because of her leadership skills and nineteen years of experience in the industry. Farming has always supported her large family and she is always willing to test new techniques and proposed solutions to farming issues to continue to improve the family living conditions. Ms Meng has proposed that the Development in Partnership in Action (DPA) should provide training about correct fertilizers, raising animals and new farming techniques. Ms Meng said sharing knowledge in the community is very important for development.



# CHHIM LAV

*THLORK YUL VILLAGE, SRE SOMRONG COMMUNE,  
CHUM KIRI DISTRICT, KAMPOT*

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*28 YEARS OLD*

*096 7064 427*

**“Farmers should practice new methods in order to get good results.”**

Ms Lav's farm and teaching career supports her family. The farm harvest supports her family's food supply and her teaching work supplements their income. Ms Lav has farmed for over ten years and has transitioned from using traditional methods to the rice intensification technique she learnt in community training. As the secretary of the community saving group Ms Lav is involved in community development and her own farming experience has encouraged other members to test new techniques.



# KEO PAN DEOUN

*KOH SLA VILLAGE, TROPANG PLANG COMMUNE, CHHUK DISTRICT,  
KAMPOT*

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**53 YEARS OLD**

**071 4743 297**

“  
**Don't give up on farming  
because it can improve  
the family livelihood.**

”

Ms Deoun supports her family with farming, planting and selling traditional cakes. Before taking part in training from NGOs Ms Deoun said she struggled with finances to buy cows and fertilizer. Ms Deoun said the training she received was reinforced at the Women Farmer Champions forum and is motivated to implement new methods for raising animals and producing compost for growing vegetables. “In the future, I want to expand my farming. When my children finish their schooling, I want them to come back and help with farming,” Ms Deoun said.



# ***SIN KUNTHEA***

***TERK KROHORM VILLAGE, KANDAL COMMUNE,  
TERK CHHU DISTRICT, KAMPOT***

---

***37 YEARS OLD***

***077 921 161***

“

**Agriculture is a good  
source of income  
if farmers can  
practice the right  
methods.**

”

Ms Kunthea is the Chair of the community’s women’s network group, saving group and is respected for her farming practice in the region. Ms Kunthea said she believes the Women Farmer Champions forum indicated the value and role of women in agriculture, and said she never expected that as a woman she could have the responsibilities in the community that she does. Her family’s main income is from the farms agricultural products and livestock and Ms Kunthea says training about organic farming and rice intensification has improved the family finances and health.



# **CHET LOMORNG**

*PANG MOUL VILLAGE, CHERNG KA COMMUNE,  
PREAH SIHANOUK DISTRICT, PREAH SIHANOUK PROVINCE*

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**44 YEARS OLD**

**016 716 027**

**“ Women need to step out of the mindset that they belong in the kitchen.**

**”**

Ms LomOrng said she has struggled to support her daughters' education since she was widowed. To support the family Ms LomOrng farms and works as a teacher in the local high school. In 2014 she was selected as president of the community saving group and in 2015 she was selected as the vice-president of the agricultural community. Ms LomOrng said she believes agricultural work can reduce youth migration for work. Ms LomOrng was selected to represent her province as she is committed to sharing her thirty years of farming experience with the community.



**44 YEARS OLD**

**096 2478 952**

**“ Agriculture can help improve family’s living standards and food security**

**”**

# ***KHIM POV***

***PANG MOUL VILLAGE, CHERNG KA COMMUNE,  
PREAH SIHANOUK DISTRICT, PREAH SIHANOUK PROVINCE***

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Ms Pov spends the time she isn't farming participating in community work and sharing information about market prices. Ms Pov said farming is very beneficial to families because it provides food security but is concerned with the lack of available water, equipment and skills to improve farming results. Ms Pov said she is trying to expand her family farm to livestock and a wider range of vegetables to increase the profits to support her family.



# NAV MEAN

*TOUL VILLAGE, TERK LAORK COMMUNE,  
PREAH SIHANOUK DISTRICT, PREAH SIHANOUK PROVINCE*

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**47 YEARS OLD**

**097 7337 616**

**“  
As farmers, we should  
stay and work in our  
homelands  
rather than migrating.”**

Ms Mean said participating in training courses has improved her farming techniques and significantly increased the farm's profit. Ms Mean has been farming for sixteen years and said the increased profits as well as her other jobs making wine and milling rice, mean she can now afford to educate her children. Voluntary community work is important to Ms Mean who is the head of the community saving group and she says her family support is what encourages her active involvement in the community.



**24 YEARS OLD**

**015 496 016**

**“ Everyone should try to plant crops and farm livestock for eating and supporting the family income. ”**

# **SEN SAVORN**

***PREK SONGKAE VILLAGE, TERK THLA COMMUNE,  
PREY NOUB DISTRICT, PREAH SIHANOUK PROVINCE***

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Understanding her community’s main farming challenges motivated Ms Savorn’s involvement with the Women Farmer Champions forum. She said by passing on the information from the forum she hopes members of community can increase their farming production and family income. Ms Savorn says the areas that still need to be developed in her community are the water efficiency, market information to ensure profits and new skills. Ms Savorn raises hens, ducks and pigs and says the profit from livestock sales has improved her family’s financial situation. Outside of farming Ms Savorn is also a community coordinator of the Rural Children Saving Association, is the Vice President of the self-help group and a community literacy teacher.





**27 YEARS OLD**

**088 9152 336**

**“ Farming helps increase family income and makes the surrounding environment lively. ”**

# **CHAN KIMCHENG**

**CHROY SVAY KERT VILLAGE, CHROY SVAY COMMUNE,  
KOH KONG DISTRICT, KOH KONG PROVINCE**

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Ms Kimcheng is committed to educating herself about new farming techniques and developing the farming community's communication. As a community focal point she communicates with the provincial department of agriculture to organise training courses, particularly in fruit planting and livestock care. Ms Kimcheng says agricultural work is very important as it reduces the money families must spend on food, increasing their financial resources for education and health care. She believes that networking between communities will encourage discussions that find solutions to issues such as the lack of water.



# CHET CHHAY

*TA NAE VILLAGE, KHAI LER COMMUNE, KOH KONG DISTRICT,  
KOH KONG PROVINCE*

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**50 YEARS OLD**

**088 7336 540**

**“ Farmers should join together to learn about agricultural techniques and exchange experiences. ”**

Ms Chhay grew up on her parent’s farm and has always had a strong interest in the agricultural industry. Ms Chhay’s parents taught her traditional farming techniques and she has since developed her skills to improve the productivity of the farm. Farming continues to be the main source of income for her family and Ms Chhay said the forum provided a new learning opportunity to access advice and technical skills. Ms Chhay said she hopes women in Cambodia, particularly farmers, will change their mindset from traditional gender roles.



**29 YEARS OLD**

**088 2605 918**

**“ We should farm and plant many vegetables here as the work abroad is more dangerous. ”**

# **SONG RORN**

**TROPEANG KONDOUL VILLAGE, CHIKHOR LER COMMUNE,  
SRE AMBEL DISTRICT, KOH KONG PROVINCE**

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Ms Rorn says that after taking part in the Women Farmer Champions forum at the regional level her farming knowledge increased and the stories she heard from other farmers encouraged her to practice new skills. Ms Rorn says the family farm provides a stable food source and is financially beneficial because of the profit made selling the products at the market. Ms Rorn said she wants to encourage other farmers to plant vegetables to reduce poverty and reduce the chemicals in community food as well as reduce young members of the community having to migrate for work.



**41 YEARS OLD**

**097 8271 712**

“

**Lets farm so that our  
country will  
not lack anything to eat.**

”

# **ENG RETH**

**VEAL TBONG VILLAGE, SRE AMBEL COMMUNE, SRE AMBEL DISTRICT,  
KOH KONG PROVINCE**

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Ms Reth’s husband migrated to find work that could financially support the family, leaving her to continue the family farm alone. In 2013 she was chosen by the MPC organisation as a model farmer for her village and Ms Reth has continued to educate herself on new planting techniques as well as leadership skills and record management. Ms Reth says she is excited to take part in training courses that will help her adjust her farming work to climate change. Community environmental activities are important to Ms Reth who is involved in dam maintenance, building new ponds for fish farming and sharing efficient farming skills.



**27 YEARS OLD**

**016 584 686**

**“ Farmers should spend their free time educating themselves about new agricultural techniques because it will increase their family income. ”**

# **HUN SOKEA**

**THMEY VILLAGE, PREY THOM COMMUNE, KEP DISTRICT, KEP PROVINCE**

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Ms Sokea said the financial aid her community saving group provides and the education and communication from the female farmers' forum network has positively influenced her experience in the agriculture industry. Ms Sokea is a midwife at the local health centre and continues to work at the farm she inherited from her parents. She explains the agricultural sector is extremely important in Cambodia because it directly supports the health, living conditions and income of a large percentage of the population. Ms Sokea's commitment to promoting health care is widely acknowledged and appreciated in her community.



បណ្តាញកសិករស្ត្រីឆ្នើម  
**WOMEN FARMER CHAMPIONS**

 បណ្តាញកសិករស្ត្រីឆ្នើម

