



# Rachna Satrii Organization



## ***Program number 2: Women in Business & Development***

The program *Women in Business & Development* is a continuation of the project *Improving Income and Nutrition through Community Empowerment (INCOME)* in Srei Snam District. It has been implementing its community development projects in six communes in Srei Snam District, Siem Reap province (Chroy Neang Gnoun, Klaing Hay, Prey, Sleng Spean, Tramsorsor, and Mong Commune, targeting 1,200 of the poor and poorest families). This project was formed by the Farmer Agriculture Cooperative; the AC community consists of 69 members, 63 of which are female, and the committee leader is a woman as well. There are 237 shareholders, each share is worth \$12.50, and the members' fee is \$2.50 each. Rachna Satrii (RS) has funded \$4,000 in growing capital. RS helps to organize community groups in producing organic vegetables, chicken farming, pig farming, and rice farming. We have received land for our project from the local authority, and we have organized the structure and source mobilization for building. The main need now for the WBD project is the AC store building measuring 8m x 12m x h 4.5m, and the front space for drying the products measuring 8mx10m. The total cost of this would be \$15,000.

### **Support our program**

***The program Women in Business & Development*** aims to improve socio-economic and food security of poor and vulnerable communities through strength in business and development.

RS will provide training on 12 Cornerstones to the SHG's members and assist each SHG to develop clear group vision, mission roles and responsibilities, and conduct regular meeting, saving and credit activities for expanding their business and increasing income. Physical inputs such as swine, vegetable seeds and animal feed will be provided to SHG members as starting capital to increase their production and productivity. Agricultural cooperatives will be established by the creation of business hubs to run larger group businesses.

Agriculture Cooperatives (AC) and Business Hubs: when the capacity of the CAVEs becomes stronger, they will plan for moving to agricultural cooperatives as well as liaise with provincial level service providers and the Provincial Department of Agriculture for capacity building and proceeding with the registration process. The AC will play a critical role in providing linkages with the market and value chain actors, and connecting with micro-finance for further support. It will provide benefits to SHG members and communities as they become AC members and clients. The Agricultural Cooperatives will also serve as business hubs which will provide the following goods and services to their members and communities. The business hubs will be focusing on Swine VC value chain.

Swine Value Chain Hubs will serve as service providers and centers that will connect with value chain actors and market, acting in these 3 ways:

- 1) input supplier: produce and sell low cost animal feeds to SHG families and community;
- 2) demonstration farms (breeder and fattener pig raising),
- 3) collecting and selling swine to collectors/ traders/ slaughterhouse.

The formation of SHG-based cooperatives will serve as production Hubs, which will link the participants along the value chain. These Hubs will connect the farmers to extension, credit, marketing and other needed services in order to strengthen their position along the value chain. Each project family will be guided to develop a business plan which will help them to earn household income. All the SHGs will be facilitated to unite into Cooperatives with functioning business hubs, which will ensure input and service supply to producers as well as collection of livestock from SHGs/farmers and marketing them.



*The community meeting photo*



## **The program goal and objective**

The major focus of this program is to strengthen the value chain and maximize the benefit to the project participants. A livestock value chain includes several or all of the following factors: farmers (producers), collectors, processors, wholesalers, retailers, and consumers. This program aims to instigate local community initiatives into the production and marketing sectors of a value chain.

## **Donation**

Women in Business & Development has received donations from communities all over the world through their effort to raise funds. Your donation could make young women realize their dream of becoming leaders and model business women in the community at grassroots level.



Case study: **Ms Phoeurn Somphors - young AC business leader.**

RS recruited her to be the community facilitator for INCOME project and to provide training. She is 21 years old living in Srei Snorm district, in Siem Reap. She is a farmer's daughter, she has completed her high school certificate and she is part of the local community.

She is responsible for the facilities of the group's women (called women self- help groups) in 13 villages. For a total of 684 families she is acting leader for the WSHG meeting and groups supporting. RS and Agriculture Farmer Cooperative members voted her to be AC Committee leader for running community businesses in 2015.



The AC: Formed 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016. Members: 69. Capital: 11,850,000 Riels. Members Fee: 690,000 Riels. RS provides loan without interest for 4,000\$. AC business: Credit use fund 40% Buy-sale agriculture product use fund 60%.

Your donation can make a big change in helping young women becoming leaders, in strengthening community economy and in turn you can make benefit from exchange visits to learn from Asia.

**These are photos of a store building model we took from TSSL.**



## **When**

Donations are welcome all year round 2016-2017. When we will receive enough financial support for the AC store building, then the store will start its activity. You can join us during the time we do construction as well.

## **Planning**

Women in Business & Development is granted by Rachna Satri to Farmers Agriculture Cooperative to use the store building to benefit community members that produce agriculture products for the long term (10-20 years). AC signs the contract which is monitored by both the Community Chief and Rachna Satri's team.

AC stores are most important for the local community initiatives involving the production and marketing sectors of a value chain.

## **How much does it cost?**

AC store building (8m x 12m x h 4.5m) and front space for drying the products (8mx10m):  
**\$15,000 total.**

## **Payment**

Payment can be made as follows:

1. **Bank Transfer or tax deductible donation:** Full remittance instruction can be found depending on your country of origin.
2. **Cash:** directly at Rachna Satri offices

## **Contact**

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