



A project / programme assisted by the German Government via the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Beneficiaries

Entire population of the villages targeted by the intervention (20 villages for the period from September 2016 to June 2017 Or about 1000 households), with a focus on Women of Reproductive Age and mothers of children 6 to 23 months.

Partners in the field

MUSEFO GFA teams
Health Centers
Operational Districts
Provincial Health Departments
Provincial Department of Rural Development



Within this project, Action against Hunger currently intervenes in 20 villages in Kampong Thom.

WASH & NUTRITION in Kampong Thom, Cambodia

Action Against Hunger Contribution to Multi-Sectoral Food and Nutrition Security (MUSEFO) project.



Complementary feeding demonstration in Dong village

About MUSEFO

The MULTI SEctoral FOod and nutrition security program (MUSEFO) is implemented by GIZ under the BMZ special initiative “One World – No Hunger.” Its objective is to improve the food and nutrition situation of women and their children who live in Kampot and Kampong Thom, targeting 25,000 women of reproductive age and 5,000 children under 2 years of age. The project has been developed to address the malnutrition of children through improving the nutrition and hygiene practices of women of reproductive age. This program uses an integrated and multi-dimension and innovative (Care Group) approach at the community level.

Action Against Hunger supports 63 Care Groups (775 caregivers members) through Social Behavior Change (SBC) for mothers raising children under two years.

Objectives

- Developing and testing sustainable approaches to improving health, nutrition and hygiene for pregnant and lactating women and for children under 2 years at the household level, using a Care Group Approach
- Linking household support in nutrition and hygiene with community support services, and with improved health and nutrition services provided by communes, districts and provincial line ministries
- Developing complete toolkits for behavior change interventions in health, nutrition and hygiene at the household level, in preparation of eventual scaling up of interventions to more villages in Kampong Thom and to other provinces.

Why linking Nutrition and WASH interventions?



“Labobo” brand sold in Phnom Penh for 20 USD, promoted during the Field Nutrition Days

- For more than a decade, scientific studies have researched the link between WASH and undernutrition. Current research appears to validate the view that unsafe drinking water, poor sanitation and inadequate hygiene significantly increase the risk of undernutrition.
- One of the most evident example of the linkages between WASH and nutrition is the enteric infections: poor hygiene practices and limited access to clean water increase the risk of enteric infections, which lead to malabsorption of nutrients, reduced immunity and growth faltering, directly impacting the nutritional status of young children.
- Coupling the promotion of essential nutritional actions with the promotion of essential WASH actions can improve the access to integrated WASH and nutrition services, hence contributing to greater health outcomes than two separate interventions
- The approach must target mothers of children under 2, as a child is more vulnerable to the adverse effects of poor hygiene and nutrition during the first 1,000 days. Damage done to a child’s physical growth, immune system and brain development during this period is usually irreversible.

Our intervention model

Our approach in Kampomg Thom was designed following an in-depth assessment of WASH and Nutrition behaviors at the household level (barriers analysis). Every household falling under the window of opportunity (first 1,000 days) has been identified and invited to become a member of care groups. A volunteer leader is identified and trained for each care group, to spread tailored key Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) and Essentials Hygiene Actions (EHA) to the group members. The approach allows both promotion of improved behaviors in hygiene, health and nutrition, and monitoring of the progress in nutritional practices. The program also fosters linkages with other groups run by NGO partners, such as the key farmers groups.

Complementary to this, Action against Hunger introduces WASH and Nutrition best practices in 20 model families and 2 model health centers.



**FOR FOOD.
FOR WATER.
FOR HEALTH.
FOR NUTRITION.
FOR CHILDREN.
FOR COMMUNITY.
FOR EVERYONE.
FOR ACTION.
AGAINST HUNGER.**

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