

Women and Rivers: Community Voices



While women often play critical roles in providing, managing and safeguarding water and natural resources, women's participation in decision-making over water and natural resources remains limited. This booklet of quotes highlights the voices and perspectives of community women in Kratie, Stung Treng and Tonle Sap in Cambodia.

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Hong Loemhin,

KOH CHBAR VILLAGE, KRATIE

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Women must play an active role in conserving our river because our livelihood still deeply depends on it. Even though we are not able to catch as much fish as before, we still use our river to cook, wash and grow vegetables.

Koecum Bunvan,

KOH KORNDIN VILLAGE, STUNG TRENG



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I like clean energy such as the solar behind me. It would be great if more support is provided to communities to install solar panels because it causes less harm to our lives and the environment.



Seng Sonanto,

CHAR THNOAL VILLAGE, KRATIE

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*I got so much inspired
meeting women leaders
who live along the river.*

*I realized that women
are capable of doing
work more than chores
and this awakened me
to be active in my
community.*

Hourn Chanthou,

KAEK PONG VILLAGE, KAMPONG CHNANG, TONLE SAP



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The river is so essential to my family and the community as a whole. It gives us fish and we can use it for growing foods and domestic usages. We shall work together conserve our river.



Ok Thol,

KOH CHBAR VILLAGE, KRATIE

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I am so happy to see more women play an active role in the community. I now want to be like them and become more involved in protecting the river and natural resources of my community.

Va Koemsey,

KOH KORNDIN VILLAGE, STUNG TRENG

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I want to be an active youth and motivate other youth and community members to be active in conserving our river because solidarity is key to successfully protecting our natural resources and livelihoods.



A portrait of a young woman with dark hair, smiling and looking slightly to the right. She is wearing a dark-colored V-neck t-shirt. The background is blurred, showing green foliage and a colorful structure.

Ream Sreyrat,

KORN KONDIN VILLAGE, STUNG TRENG

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Before I dared not to walk alone. But now, I am more courageous because of my involvement in helping community work.

I think that women have an important role in building their own capacity and empowering their group.

Chieng Sokha,

KAEK PONG VILLAGE, KAMPONG CHNANG, TONLE SAP

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The Tonle Sap and the Mekong River are connected. Communities, especially women should join and work together to protect our rivers because we share the same river.



Mam Pech,

KOMPONG ROTEH VILLAGE, KRATIE

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I think women should stand up for ourselves, protect our own rights. Our voice is not heard. If we want our right to be respected, we have to be able to stand up and claim them ourselves.

I believe women can be the leading example for claiming rights.



Seng Chanthan,

KOH CHBAR VILLAGE, KRATIE



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I see women as powerful actors who can lobby and engage other actors to take action to protect and conserve our rivers. I encourage women to get involved because we are important influencers.

Mon Phinthang,

CHAR THNOAL VILLAGE, KRATIE

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Women, even if we are young, can do something to conserve our natural resources.

We can start by getting ourselves involved in volunteer work and learning about our community work.



Pao Maley,

CHAR THNOAL VILLAGE, KRATIE

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I feel myself becoming more confident since I've been involved in voluntary work with other youth in my community.

Young women like myself can find ways of empowering ourselves through volunteer work.







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