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# Cross-Cutting Approach WASH and Nutrition Integretion

**By H.E. Dr. Sok Silo**

**Secretary General of the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development**

**Cambodian Government SUN Focal Point**

# Content

- Cambodia's context – Nutrition and WASH
- Second National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023
- Priority- Nutrition – Sensitive WASH
- Approach- Sub-Working Group on WASH and Nutrition
- Achievement
- Challenge

# Cambodia's context – WASH and Nutrition

- One in three children under five were stunted (32%); one in four were underweight (24%); and one in ten children were wasted (10%).

(National Statistic Data, 2014)

- 80 % of the population live in rural areas while almost half of them lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation. (CARD, 2020).

# 2nd National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023

- Improving nutrition is a cross-cutting issue, which requires close cooperation, participation, intervention, investment, and commitment from relevant sectors and stakeholders.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 has been identified six joint priorities:
  - Healthy Diets,
  - Nutrition-Sensitive WASH,
  - Food Value Chains, Food Safety and Fortification,
  - Community- Led Nutrition
  - Social Assistance and Food Security and Nutrition
  - Food Security and Nutrition in Disaster Management and Climate Change

# 2<sup>nd</sup> National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023

- Twin – Track Approach



# Nutrition- Sensitive WASH

- One priority in the Second National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019—2023
- Inadequate access to sanitation impacts socio – economic and health on people
- Water and Sanitation- related disease is the leading cause of sickness and death of children

=> WASH is a fundamental determinant of health and nutrition, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

# Approach – Sub-Working Group on WASH and Nutrition

- Sub-Working Group on WASH and Nutrition led by CARD, brings all relevant representative from MRD, MoH, MoP, MoEYS, NCDD, the donors, UN, civil society, and the private sector.
- The purpose of this group is
  - bring together WASH, food security and nutrition sector to develop a shared vision
  - Improve learning and sharing experiences on WASH and nutrition integration
  - Establish synergy between the sectors to improve quality of programming and services in tackling undernutrition.



# Approach – Sub-Working Group on WASH and Nutrition

- To succeed, the group creates a theory of change for integrated nutrition programming, and employed a study to gain understanding and barrier and potential solution.
- The group has set three priorities for action:
  - Appoint focal people who can accumulate knowledge about WASH and nutrition
  - Develop a cross-sectoral strategy
  - Advocate to Ministry of Economy and Finance for increasing national budget allocation to nutrition and WASH and donor for increasing merged funding opportunities.

# Achievement

- Conducted a study on WASH-Nutrition, Barriers and Solutions and result led to the development of theory of change for integrated nutrition programming.
- First national workshop on “Improved Hygiene and Nutrition make children grow: from evidence to impact”.
- Developed WASH-Nutrition SBCC Campaign.
- In 2018, the government and the development partners brought the outcome of the discussion to the Cambodian villages, districts, and provinces they support.

# Challenge

- The national coordination mechanisms are not easily replicated at provincial level as the WASH and nutrition technical working group has no clear structure at provincial level.
- Despite Ministry of Rural Development's effort on building provincial coordination, CARD has no structure at the provincial level.
- There is a need to set up a new provincial technical reference group, which could ensure an effective coordination of integrated nutrition programmes between provincial departments, civil society, development partners and the private sector.

**Thank you very much!**

