

FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT / RAPPORT TECHNIQUE FINAL

ANNEX 16 - 62ND FOOD SECURITY FORUM

NURTURING CONNECTIONS PRESENTATION BY CHENG CHINNETH AND RAMONA RIDOLFI

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IDRC Grant / Subvention du CRDI: 107982-001-Scale Up of Homestead Food Production for Improved Nutrition in Cambodia (CIFSRF Phase 2)

Annex 7.8- 62nd Food Security Forum Nurturing Connections Presentation



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Fostering Transformation for Women's Empowerment in an Integrated Homestead Food Production Program - the *Nurturing Connections*® Approach

**62th Food Security Forum
Council of Ministers, 28 June, 2017**

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**INTRODUCTION TO
ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION**



HKI's Enhanced Homestead Food Production approach improves household nutrition and food security by:

- Working with women focal points in households to increase production and availability of micronutrient-rich food.
- Providing women and other household members with nutrition and WASH education through behavior change tools to improve maternal diets, child feeding and WASH practices.
- Addressing gender inequality in the household – including women's influence on food production, consumption and use of income from food production.



INTRODUCTION TO
ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION



Promotion of micronutrient rich **fruit**
and **vegetable** production

➤ Focus on organic and sustainable approaches (mulching, composting, organic pest control, vermiculture, etc)



INTRODUCTION TO
ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION



Support for improved household
poultry production

➤ Increasing household egg production through improved husbandry skills



INTRODUCTION TO ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION



Household Fish Production (collaboration with Fisheries Administration)



Photo © Sebastian Galtbary

Development of sustainable
private fish hatcheries in each district



Innovative polyculture of **6 varieties** of small
and large fish in household ponds



INTRODUCTION TO ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION





Support the **marketing** of household
surplus food products

➤ Market knowledge, negotiation skills, etc.



INTRODUCTION TO
ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION





Promotion of improved nutritional practices
using the **Essential Nutrition Actions**
Approach

Photo by: Sebastia Galbany

- Working with Village Health Volunteers, monthly sessions with households.
- BCC tools designed through formative research and approved by MoH



INTRODUCTION TO
ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION





Support and promote improved **Water,**
Sanitation and Hygiene practices

Photo by: Sebastia Galbany

- Integration of WASH behavior change messaging with nutrition messaging
- Linking communities and WASH service providers and suppliers



INTRODUCTION TO ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION



Promotion of women's empowerment using the **Nurturing Connections Approach**

Photo by: Sebastia Galbany

- Gender analysis conducted in each local context
- Adaptation of HKI's **Nurturing Connections** approach to the Cambodia context

FIRST STEP OF NURTURING CONNECTIONS: UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT THROUGH GENDER ANALYSIS



Objective:

To provide useful insights on how to address gender in the Enhanced Homestead Food Production program

Participatory Rural Appraisal methods and Individual Interviews are used to discover **reasons behind** and **processes of** inequalities within the household.

Key findings included:

- Unequal decision-making processes related to production and consumption of nutritious food, asset control and income expenditure.
- Influence of other family members on child feeding practices, traditional division of labor in the household, presence of domestic violence.

In-depth interview



asset mapping tool



FIRST STEP OF NURTURING CONNECTIONS: UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT THROUGH GENDER ANALYSIS



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ANALYSIS

ACCESS

- Enhance **women's skills and knowledge** on food production
- Include **elders in nutrition sessions**

AGENCY

- Support women in enhancing **self-esteem and self-efficacy**
- Promote **joint decision-making**

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

- Promote **positive male role models**, willing to support in household tasks
- Increase **community support to women** producers
- Improve **women's and community knowledge of services** for victims of violence.

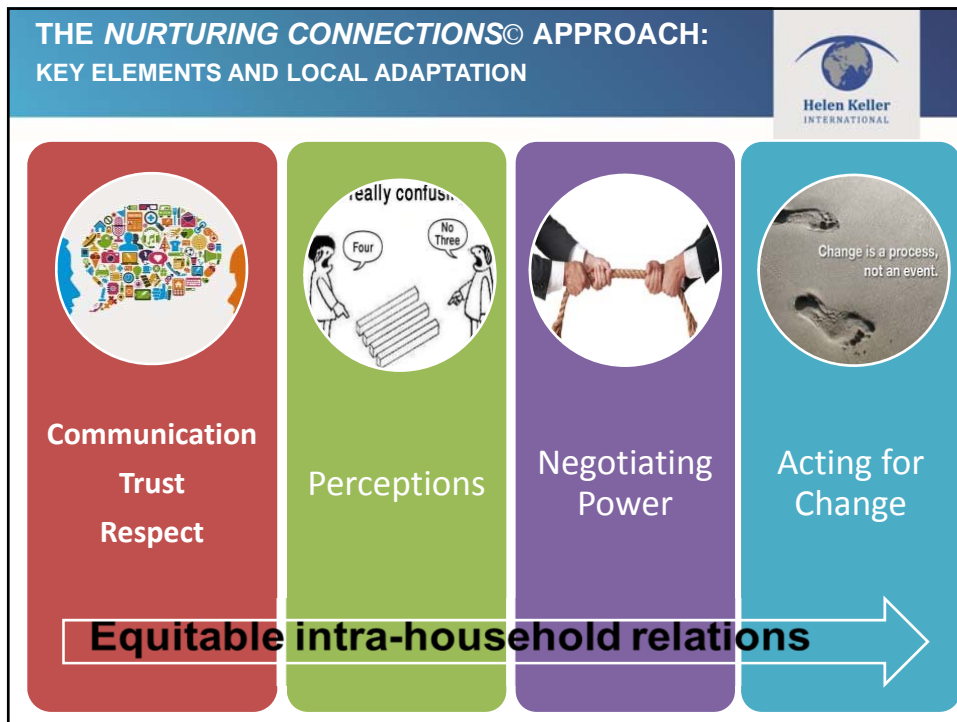


THE NURTURING CONNECTIONS© APPROACH: KEY ELEMENTS AND LOCAL ADAPTATION




Local Adaptation Process





IMPLEMENTING NURTURING CONNECTIONS[©] IN CAMBODIA



Implementation:

- Nurturing Connections Sessions in mixed peer groups with women, men, elders and village chiefs
- One facilitator for 10 to 25 participants.
- One session every two months, as part of the monthly project meetings
- Total of 7 sessions over 10 to 14 months
- Duration of each session: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 1 session is made up of 2 to 4 Activities






Photo © Sebastia Galliano

IMPLEMENTING *NURTURING CONNECTIONS*® IN CAMBODIA



Implementation:

- Each session is made up of 2 to 4 Activities

Design of the Activity:

1. Begins with an action or experience.
2. The action is followed by a reflection: "What happened? What does it mean? Why did it happen?"
3. From the reflection we draw a learning and we name it.
4. The learning leads to planning:

"Now what? What will we do to change the situation?"

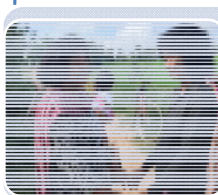


IMPLEMENTING *NURTURING CONNECTIONS*® IN CAMBODIA



CONTENT OF THE SESSIONS

BLOCK 1: LET'S COMMUNICATE



1. Swapping Places
2. Hopes and Fears
3. Ground Rules



1. Defining Trust
2. Demonstrating and Building Trust
3. Obstacle to Listening

BLOCK 2: GENDERED PERCEPTIONS




1. Partial View Point
2. Exploring Gender Behaviour
3. Access to Nutrition




1. Power hierarchies
2. Relations of Power and Domestic Violence
3. Story of Mom
4. Managing cash flow

IMPLEMENTING NURTURING CONNECTIONS[©] IN CAMBODIA




BLOCK 3: NEGOTIATING POWER




1. Asset Control Mapping
2. Let's think about change !
3. What is Assertiveness?

BLOCK 4: ACTING FOR CHANGE



1. Say No!
2. Who decides what?
3. Looking at/for Change
4. Obstacles to Change



1. Hot Potato
2. Working towards Change

NURTURING CONNECTIONS[©] IN CAMBODIA - MONITORING AND EVALUATION



Implementation monitoring:

- **Facilitator reports:** Ensures all key parts of the activities are implemented and describes group participation.
- **Supervisor monitoring form:** Reports on facilitator performance and group participation.



Photo © Sebastia Galbary

Impact Evaluation (conducted by an independent HKI M&E team):

- **Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) questionnaire** included as part of the baseline and endline surveys (New version of the WEAI, focused on projects.)
- **Time use surveys** in different seasons throughout the project.

KEY SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES



Facilitators' feedback:

"Nurturing connections is"

- **Adaptable:** activities are context based and built on day-to-day routines and practices;
- **Inclusive:** engages all household members to discuss harmful routines.
- **Flexible:** the manual offers a range of different dynamics that are easy to change based on needs and responses.



Participants' feedback:

"Do you see any benefit from attending the sessions?"

- **Women:** Yes, my husband is supporting me more with small household tasks: e.g. cooking, washing clothes.
- **Men:** The games are a good tool to think about what happens daily in our family, and that often goes unnoticed.



KEY SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES



Challenges

- **Team capacity building:** HKI Field Officers are not gender specialists. Need to invest in training of team, and field level coaching.
- **Availability of community members' time:** Their time is valuable. We need to respect their time and balance with other priorities of the program.
- **Cultural and context barriers:** Some of the activities were seen as "childish games" by a number of older participants.
- **Community interest:** Intangible knowledge, therefore hard to engage participants and involve them in the discussions.







Photo © Sebastia Galtzary



THANK YOU.

"Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of overcoming it."
- Helen Keller

