

# **Cambodia's Internal and External Migration in the Era of AEC**

Year: 2015

Location of fieldwork: Cambodia

Name: Te Monyrotha

Keywords: Cambodia, rural–urban migration, international migration, gender, family

## **Research background**

Rural–urban migration has increased in Cambodia since 1998. People living in provinces come to the capital, Phnom Penh, to find jobs. Most are women and find employment as garment workers. In addition to rural–urban migration, about one million Cambodian people to date have migrated across the border to other countries, mainly Malaysia, South Korea, and Thailand, to earn higher wages, although most of these workers find low-paid, low-skilled, dirty, and dangerous jobs.

## **Research purpose and aim**

This fieldwork aims to collect documents related to author's research topic in conjunction with her main supervisor's research-training workshop.

## **Results and achievements of fieldwork**

Author visited Pursat Province for one week to join the research-training workshop, and during this visit author and other participants collected data about the fish value chain, the land-use system, the history of the village and the lifestyle of its elderly people, and rice growing and production. Author then examined the data with other participants to test hypotheses. After participating in this training workshop, author better understood livelihoods in rural villages, as well as interview methods and how to use analytical methods for collected data. Moreover, author visited the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI) to obtain documents and books related to author's research topic.

## **Implications and impacts on future research**

Based on this fieldwork, author has decided to focus author's future research on support for women who have been subjected to trafficking. Many researchers focus on the migration process and working conditions, but few focus on women's experiences after migration. It is important to provide education and vocational training as well as mental, physical, economic, and other kinds of support to those who have been abused until they can regain their livelihood. This research will explore the kind of support Cambodian society has provided to these women as well as where they can find support and what kind of support they need.



House in Pursat Province



Ministry of Women's Affairs, Phnom Penh City



Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), Phnom Penh City