BUILDING COMMUNITY VOICES

Global Report

Annual Report
January – December 2014
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Time Period Covered by the Report, Vision and Mission of BCV

- **Project Number:** A-02554-02-505913
- **Project Period:** January 1st 2014 – December 31st 2014
- **Vision:** Communities are self-reliant and lead their development in a sustainable manner. Communities are linked and networked into a vibrant civil society.
- **Mission:** BCV’s mission is to provide community organizing, community media, and networking capacity building to support Cambodian communities and Community Based Organization (CBOs) in order to empower them to raise their voices to stakeholders (national and international) for solutions.

Summary of Changes in the External Environment

Including changes in politics, conflict, policy, and environment

External Changes

BCV has observed an increase in the capacity of Cambodians to voice their concerns via community media and social media. They are collaborating in events and campaigns to demand recognition of their human rights and to protect their lands and natural resources. The Royal Cambodian Government (RCG), however, has arrested activists and used force to crack down on civil society activities, thus diminishing freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of association.
Human rights abuses and violence toward activists are rampant in Cambodia, even increasing. In the first six months of 2014, many Cambodians organized campaigns and demonstrated in Freedom Park to raise their concerns and make demands to the government. The RCG used armed forces and soldiers to suppress these activities and arrested many people. At demonstrations on 4-5 January 2014, government forces killed four protesters, including three garment workers and one monk. They also arrested and imprisoned 23 activists, including one BCV community media volunteer and others from BCV networks. Many people collaborated to protest and demand the release of these 23 activists.

NGOs and networks are concerned about the Draft Law on Association and NGOs which the government developed and tried to push through Parliament in 2012. Because of protests from the NGO community and community networks, the government decided to wait until 2014 for further consideration. This law includes a provision that would make registration mandatory for NGOs, require reporting collaboration, and make it compulsory for annual reports, budgets, and action plans to be submitted to the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Economy and Finance, and other relevant ministries. NGOs will be suspended if they fail to report to the ministries. This law has the potential to restrict the freedom of NGOs in Cambodia.

The availability of unbiased, public information on current issues affecting Cambodians’ lives has improved but is still limited. Cambodian television channels are not independent and rarely cover land disputes and human rights issues. Recently, CTN and Hang Meas have started to cover some land issues and community demonstrations. In 2015, the CNRP (opposition party) will open a TV channel. Communities hope this station will cover “hot” news including forced evictions, land and other human rights abuses, and people’s movements.

Systemic issues that impact Cambodians are difficult to address. When equipped with the advocacy tools, however, Cambodians are more able to demand their rights and protect their land and natural resources for the next generation.

**Internal Changes/Organizational Developments**

**Changes in staff and volunteers:**
- In January 2014, promoted two volunteers to be Community Mobilizing Support and Media Support staff, and recruited a Finance Assistant and Community Mobilization Assistant to work in the provinces.
- Collaborated with Projects Abroad to accept foreign volunteers for short periods of two to four months.
- A Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) staff member was seconded to BCV to work full time for one year ending in June 2014. A new seconded MCC staff member began to work with BCV in October.
- Accepted two short-term volunteers from Cambodian Women’s Development Agency (CWDA), two short-term volunteers from Holt International Organisation, and one volunteer from Healthcare Center for Children (HCC).
- Two IPs (f: 1) volunteered for the Promoting Indigenous Voices (PIV) project in Ratanakiri.
- Two members of the BCV board resigned due to busy schedules. The Chair and board members selected Ms. Menh Navy, the Program Coordinator on Capacity Building at CORD, and Ms. Chhavy Ringssey, Partner Auditor at Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), to replace them.

**Funding:** BCV received funding from nine donors in 2014: Oxfam Novib, American Jewish World Service (AJWS), Diakonia, Misereor, The McKnight Foundation, Action Aid Cambodia (AAC), EU-Trócaire and Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP). Southeast Asia Development Program (SADP)/Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) began funding the PIV program in September. EU-Trocaire funding will finish in February 2015. The remaining eight donors will continue to fund BCV through 2015.

**PIV:** BCV is working to strengthen the capacity of the Promoting Indigenous Voices (PIV) program staff. The goal is for PIV to become an independent organization in 2016. BCV has recruited 3 IP staff to lead
the Organizational Development project and has provided training on Monitoring and Evaluation, Gender mainstreaming, BCV policies, and project management. 10 working groups (f: 3) are now raising awareness among IP community members about community media and the plan do create a new IP NGO.

NGO management: In October 2012, BCV acquired the Certificate on Governance & Professional Practices (GPP). This came as a result of a lot of hard work on behalf of BCV to develop its organizational capacity and professionalism. In the middle of June 2014, the GPP group came to review the BCV team and board to confirm BCV’s compliance with the GPP requirements. BCV has received the first follow-up report.

Capacity Building

- Three-day training on the Project Cycle Management at BCV office for all staff.
- Two finance staff attended a two-day training on QuickBooks organized by EWMI at Star Kampuchea and the Finance Learning Forum organized by CCC at KSSA/ICF.
- Two staff attended the three-day Child Sponsorship Program Training conducted by Action Aid Cambodia (AAC) in Kampot province.
- Three BCV staff attended the REDD+ Cambodia and Climate Change meeting conducted by NGOF at CJCC. One staff attended a three-day training on forestry management and REDD+ at NGOF.
- Four staff attended a two-day Gender workshop conducted by Diakonia to learn about gender discrimination and improve the gender policy.
- Two staff attended a two-day training on Hazard Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (HVCA) and a two-day training on M&E organized by AAC.
- One staff attended a gender training organized by AAC in Pursat province.
- Two staff attended the five-day Open Cambodia 2014 forum for general discussion on IT and Media organized by Open Institute Cambodia.
- One staff and BCV ED attended the two-day Peace Conference organized by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) on alternative dispute resolution and nonviolent conflict resolution.
- All BCV staff attended the five-day BCV Internal Review in Kampot province.
- One staff attended a meeting with the ASEAN Radio Network.
- One staff attended an M&E training organized by CCC to learn about theory of change.

Summary of Activities Implemented
Broken down into Community Mobilizing, Media, and PIV programs

Community Mobilizing

Direct Beneficiaries 499 (f: 218); Indirect 1846 (f: 873)

1.1. The confidence of communities/focal point persons will be increased to express their voices

Community Consultation Workshops on:

- State Power and Legal Frameworks with 29 (f: 10) participants.
- Land Law, Forestry Law, and Skills of a Facilitator with 77 (f: 45) participants.
- Minute and Report Writing Skills with 58 (f: 36) participants.
- Community Outreach and Mobilizing with 31 (f: 3) participants.
- Case Study Collection with 45 (f: 17) participants.
- Climate Change with 20 (f: 10) participants.
Aid Effectiveness and National Budget Flow Systems with 35 (f: 3) participants.

Cambodian Draft Laws (e.g., NGO law) with 26 (f: 8).

Conducted a Community Outreach consultation workshop with 31 (f: 13, 3 supported by Misereor) focal point persons from various provinces. Participants discussed challenges and developed community outreach strategies.

Conducted a two-day consultation on the International Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) with 30 (f: 8) indigenous focal point persons from different ethnic groups. Participants shared their challenges with racial discrimination and developed strategies to empower their communities to be independent and advocate for indigenous minority rights.

Key Results/Outcomes:

Participants in the Community Outreach workshop demonstrated strong capacity to plan community outreach and planning activities. They expressed concerns that their budget is limited, the authorities do not cooperate with them, and their community solidarity is lacking due to other priorities.

Participants in the NGO Law/Association Law meeting believe the law would affect their ability to do advocacy activities and infringe on their freedom of assembly and freedom of expression. The meeting participants committed to creating advocacy movement to lobby against the NGO/Association Law.

BCV’s post-evaluations revealed that participants in BCV workshops increased their knowledge of ESCR, citizenship rights, ICERD, climate change, submitting reports to the UN committee, and the role of the RCG to respect and fulfill the needs of its citizens.

Furthermore, focal point persons increased their knowledge of Economic Land Concessions (ELCs), their impact on communities, and the Cambodian land law. These participants planned to share information about the ELC framework and Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) mandate to their communities.

1.2. Focal point persons will have ownership in lobby and facilitating national advocacy activities on issues affecting their rights through BCV’s support

Coached focal point persons who shared information on land law, forestry law, and facilitation skills in Preah Vihear province with 271 persons (f: 194).
Organized four meetings with 30 (f: 6) focal point persons from the National Advisory Group (NAG). Participants reflected on the 2013 National Community Media Forum and planned for 2014. However, NAG was unable to hold this event in 2014 due to a lack of funding (see Community Media section).

Provided financial support to three (f: 1) NAG members to visit and assist a NAG media group of 15 persons (f: 1). Ms. Yeng Khum, the new NAG representative, was selected to replace Mr. Rin Sophan who was no longer active in the community.

Conducted a two-day internal reflection workshop with 18 (f: 6) focal point persons from different provinces. For this internal evaluation, BCV shared achievements and completed activities, developed a three-year Strategic Plan, and reflected on strong points, areas in need of improvement, and the quality of BCV services.

Provided financial and technical support to a community group at the Community Development Learning Centre (CDLC) in Anchanroung commune, Kg. Chhnang. BCV conducted a needs assessment with two focus groups of 15 (f: 9) media volunteers and 20 (f: 18) community people. The needs assessment accounted for their internal and external resources and what they require in order to manage their own projects.

Organized a meeting with members from six communities Siem Reap province who have been involved in land disputes since 2006. There were 402 persons (f: 284) from eight villages who came together to support and encourage their representatives who went to testify in a Siem Reap court.

In January 2014, members of Songkum Meanchey, Kampong Song commune, and Takeo province were accused by the Takeo Provincial Court of destroying and flooding a jungle. In March, BCV supported three community representatives as they went to court to get clarification on the issue. A total of 58 community members (f: 21) attended in support of their representatives.

Provided financial support to the families of three community members who were arrested for being involved in human rights and land advocacy. The BCV team organized a trip for their families, focal point persons, and NGO partners to visit them in jail.

Key results/Outcome:

Of the focal point persons who attended BCV capacity building trainings, 50% were able to write small proposals and reports for submitting to BCV and other partners.

Participants in the Collecting Case Studies workshop improved their skills for writing and editing case studies. Fourteen of the participants developed a plan to write case studies about their villages’ experience with human rights violence, land grabbing, logging, and natural disasters.

Participants who attended trainings on legal documentation, land law, forestry law, and mechanisms for protecting natural resources gained knowledge in these areas, were able to write case studies, and disseminated this knowledge to their communities. According to BCV’s monitoring process, community members acquired new skills and were committed to work for positive change in their communities.
Participants in the internal review recommended BCV continue programs that facilitate community ownership, capacity building for networks on community media (e.g., social media), and mobilizing. Further recommendations for BCV included providing more training/consultation workshops on expropriation law, techniques for collecting and writing case studies, and IP rights. Communities expressed interest in these areas because the topics will help them to plan and implement their own advocacy activities.

1.3: Communities’ capacity in working as networks are developed and strengthened, so that networks are capable of building their constituencies and coordinating networks’ tasks.

Exchange visits:
- Two exchange visits to Rattanakiri province with 11(f: 2) and 12 (f: 7) focal point persons from Preah Vihear province-- both communities were involved in land disputes with companies and had lost collective land. The focal point persons shared their own experiences and methods for conducting advocacy campaigns on land conflicts and illegal logging.
- One exchange visit with 17 (f: 6) focal point persons from eight provinces to Siem Reap province.

Collaboration with human rights NGOs and networks for joint advocacy activities:
- Co-facilitated an Anti-Corruption Campaign with the Community Peacebuilding Network (CPN). BCV contributed USD 200.00 and monitored and documented the events. A total of 937 civilians from 25 provinces came together to share their concerns about ELCs, illegal fishing, and other issues. Community members affected by forced evictions met with NGO partners to discuss methods for getting assistance from policy makers and stakeholders.
- Met with human rights NGOs at the Cambodian Human Rights Action Committee office to plan the 66th annual Human Rights Day. BCV supported 10 focal point persons from two provinces to attend the events in Freedom Park.
- Participated in multiple network meetings including the Sugar Justice Network (SJN), meetings with NGOs working on forced land eviction cases, and to write joint statements demanding the release of the 23 detained activists.
• BCV attended and documented World Habitat Day in October.
• Attended and documented a press conference on illegal logging organized by NGO Forum.

Supported focal point persons to hold a public forum called Land Issues and Rights of Land Management. Participants included the Takong Commune Chief, a UN representative, Licado Coordinator, and 115 community members from six villages.

Monitored and observed community events such as campaigns, protests, marches, and petitioning efforts, and documented these events with photography and video.

Conducted field visits to four provinces to coach focal point persons and assess the impact of project activities and case studies. BCV interviewed 18 (f: 4) people and produced four case studies about local impacts and held focus group meetings to hear updates about the community issues.

Supported eight (f: 3) (4 supported by Misereor) community representatives from two provinces to hold a community Reflection Workshop. Participants shared experiences and lessons learned.

Implemented a child sponsorship program funded by Action Aid in Ansachambak commune, Pursat province.

**Key Results / Outcomes:**

The exchange visits provided an opportunity for focal point persons to see the broader picture of land conflicts in Cambodia and for mutual sharing about mobilizing and advocacy techniques. Participants learned about organizing, protecting natural resources, IP culture, and IP traditional livelihoods from their host communities.

An example of a successful grassroots event was the campaign to release 23 activists from prison. People held many demonstrations in front of the courts and in public areas. In May 2014, the court released the 23 activists who were arrested and imprisoned in early January. BCV monitored some of these events and produced several documentaries covering these events.

Following the forum on Land Issues and Rights of Land Management, participants demonstrated knowledge of land law and how to seek intervention from relevant authorities. Local authorities, NGOs, and community members networked and strengthened their relationships.

When NGOs, NGO networks, and community members collaborate they are able to do more than any one group can do alone. In 2014, BCV worked with these groups to coordinate many joint advocacy activities on a wide variety of topics (e.g., anti-corruption campaign). Joint activities are an important way to build a critical mass of people to raise important issues and demand recognition from the government.

BCV and Ansachambak community members have a better relationship with local authorities because of the child sponsorship funded by Action Aid.
Community Media

Direct Beneficiaries 155 (f: 51)

2.1. Community Media packages are produced by using traditional and modern forms of media and it is publicly disseminated by communities

Supported communities in 19 provinces to organize local Community Media Forums. Participants showcased photography, songs, and other performances to express their concerns to the public.

Nine Smartphones, model Samsung ACE3, were purchased for community media skills training.

Facilitated a working process for the volunteer group at CDLC to develop its organizational structure, mission and vision, and to develop fundraising strategies. Volunteers demonstrated capacity to do Stakeholders and SWOT Analyses.

Contributed USD 500.00 to CDLC in order to strengthen their ownership of fund management.

Supported the community media volunteers in CDLC to produce radio programs. From January to June, CDLC produced stories under ten themes that were transmitted to 369 radio spots. These themes included:

1. Community Ownership: 44 spots
2. Khmer Traditions and Culture: 22 spots
3. Agriculture: 53 spots
4. Environment and Resources: 55 spots
5. Health: 33 spots
6. Entertainment: 60 spots
7. Gender: 27 spots
8. Culture: 37 spots
9. Community Peace: 37 spots
10. Community Development: 4 spots

On 14-15th of June, BCV helped coordinate the 2nd Community Photo Exhibition and photo contest event at Meta House in Phnom Penh. Community volunteers showcased media under the theme, “My Natural Resources.” Visitors to the event selected three winners: Mr. Ling Din from Pursat, Mr. Hul Vet from Kratie, and Mr. Khea Sochea from Preah Vihear. Each winner received a Camera Canon IXUS 145 to use for community advocacy. BCV facilitated a reflection workshop to improve the quality of future events.

In order to strengthen community knowledge regarding land issues and Cambodia laws, BCV produced 1,000 copies of “Expropriate Law” to disseminate to communities.
The National Advisory Group (NAG) was unable to host the National Community Media Forum this year due to budgetary constraints. NAG was unable to secure enough funding to hold the event. To reflect on this issue, BCV facilitated a National Consultation Workshop with NAG members, community media volunteers, community rights activists, IRAM, PIV, donors and several other NGO partners. They developed a 5-year strategic plan for raising money and improving the Forum in the future.

**Key Results/Outcome**

Approximately 2,000 villagers participated in Community Media Forum events in 19 provinces.

The community radio in Anchanroung was upgraded from 15w to 30w of power, enabling the broadcast to reach 15km more than its previous range. The broken transmitter and antenna were repaired and will be used for the new community radio in Pursat province.

Media volunteers produced 369 radio programs for the community radio in Anchangroung commune.

Thirty-one photos from community members were publicly displayed and 3,200 postcards of the photos were produced. Nearly 80% were disseminated.

The National Advisory Group (NAG) and other attendants of the National Consultation Workshop developed a 5-year strategy plan to promote and implement the National Community Media Forum in the future. The NAG has renewed focus and will work to conduct a Forum in 2015.

2.2. The focal point persons are improved in their community media skills to strengthen their ownership and to develop several documents related to their communities that can be distributed to others.

Conducted trainings on basic use of digital cameras for 221 focal point persons (f: 41) focal point persons.

Video documentary training with 7 (f: 1) focal point persons.

Computer skills training and audio/sound editing with 23 (f: 7) focal point persons. Topics included using social media platforms such as Facebook, Microsoft Word, internet use, and Khmer Unicode typing.

Refresher trainings:
- On basic camera skills for 23 focal point persons from various provinces.
• On community journalism for 30 focal point persons (f: 2).

One computer training with six members of NAG. The training focused on managing the NAG website (nagcm.info).

Provided 47 digital cameras, 4 digital audio recorders, 3 smartphones to community members and 1 radio upgrade to the CDLC in Anchanroung. The radio now reaches 15 km in Anchanroung commune.

BCV consulted with the core LDC volunteer group who are interested in establishing a community radio station.

**Key Results/Outcomes:**

Thirty-one photos from communities were publicly displayed at Meta House. Those photos were put on 3,200 postcards and nearly 80% were disseminated.

Communities have submitted 90 new photos for the next Community Photo Exhibition event.

Approximately 80% of the community media volunteers who received media skills training and equipment are able to use those skills and equipment to document their issues in their community. After the training all participants were able to utilize more functions on their camera. They also improved the quality of their photographs, including the composition and concept of the photos.

Communities collaborated to host photo exhibitions, provide material for the case study collection titled “When Land Dispute is End?”, and sent photos and videos to BCV and local NGOs.

The smartphone trainees and computer trainees were able to post and share news comments on their Facebook accounts. For example, Hoeun Sopheap, Chum Yin, Chan La, Keo Srey Nourt, Sang Yan, Boreth Kompi, Kim Sakhon, and Kim Son were active on Facebook. These accounts were also monitored by BCV so that they might improve their reporting techniques. Nearly all trainees were able to write short articles and posted on their Facebook accounts.
Community volunteers produced a 13 minute 38 second video showcasing the 2013 National Community Media Forum. Community members were able to demonstrate their video editing skills even if they had low capacity to do so.

A 33 minute 53 second radio drama titled “The Chance of My village, Episode 2” was produced and broadcasted by the Anchanroung community radio.

A 13 minute video documentary was edited by focal point persons.

The community members who were trained in sound editing skills were able to produce radio programs for their community radio in Anchanroung commune, Kampong Chhnang province.

NAG members who received training have uploaded at least 35 news articles.

2.3. Skillful focal point persons will be able to provide community media services to networking with other communities

Supported 12 youth to participate in the Learning Experience and Action for Development (LEAD) program. LEAD is an exchange program supported by AJWS and joined by Building Community Voices (BCV), Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA), Khmer Youth and Social Development (KYSD), Youth for Peace (YFP), and Youth Resource and Development Program (YRDP). On these trips, youth learned about advocating, negotiating with companies, saving groups, and community media.

Financially supported two youth to participate in an exchange to Tralach Chas village, Kampong Thom province led by CIYA. They learned about land disputes, deforestation (by authorities and by villagers who sell to authorities), and other ways that people are threatened by local authorities.

Conducted 8 field visits to CDLC in Anchanroung commune, Kg. Chhnang province and met with 26 (f: 11) focal point persons. BCV monitors focused on the development of the Community Development Learning Centre (CDLC), the progress of the second episode of the radio drama, “The Chance of My Village,” and on the maintenance of community radio equipment and accessories. BCV also provided a training on administrative and financial management skills. CDLC has $637.10 remaining from guest and member contributions.

Conducted two field visits to Kampong Speu and Kg. Chhnang to monitor how community volunteers were using the cameras. Staff met with 11 community photographers during the visits. Some cameras of the old models (Nikon L10, Nikon L19, and Canon A470) had malfunctioned, but they still want to have a camera to collect evidence of the land conflict.

BCV and Oxfam Novib collaborated to conduct an impact survey interview in 19 provinces with 346 people. Half of the total number were direct beneficiaries, and second half were not BCV beneficiaries. BCV interviewed 346 people among 378.

On 6th of October, BCV supported 3 (f: 2) focal point persons to participate in World Habitat Day celebrations organized by NGO partners.
The 12 participants in the 2nd LEAD exchange learned from partners about “hot” issues and were able to share about this in their own communities. These youth gained awareness of advocacy methods and media for advocacy from BCV. Some of the participants are still fearful of local authorities.

The community radio program at the CDLC in Anchanroung continues to develop. Volunteers collaborated to create radio content for their programs and operated the transmitter to broadcast their radio productions on-air. They work peer-to-peer, with more skillful people training the beginners. Some of volunteers at CDLC are currently key resource persons in other networks and local NGOs in Anchanroung. Moreover, they recruited seven members to the Governance Board for CDLC and developed an organizational structure, mission, and vision.

Focal point persons who participated in trainings are able to use cameras to document conflicts between their community and companies and/or local authorities. For example, community media volunteers in Kg. Speu used their cameras to document people protesting at Ly Yong Phat Company (Phnom Penh Sugar Company). They used these photos to share in their communities and on social media.

Community media volunteers from Anchanroung Community Radio created one “hot” news article about the World Habitat Day events. This was broadcasted over the radio.

Collaboration Work:

The BCV team organized trips to visit three of the 23 detained activists in jail with a few focal point persons, their families, and NGOs partners. On the 23rd of May, these activists were temporarily released pending trial.

The BCV Director serves on the boards of other NGOs (EHE, NGOF, MVI, UPWD and CPN-CDPS) and participated in meetings with them and shared her perspectives on how to work with communities in a sustainable and empowering way. Additionally, the BCV director is working to secure a future for CPN-CDPS by building the capacity of the new CDPS Board to become a people’s secretariat for CPN.
model of NGO—one that encourages and empowers communities rather than implementing programs for them—is a new concept within NGOs in Cambodia.

On 28-29 May, two BCV staff helped CPN-CDPS to produce a video documentary for the “Anti-Corruption Campaign” in Phnom Penh.

BCV collaborated with Open Institute (OI) to develop the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system about Organic Law.

**Key Result/Outcome:**

At least 1,000 people participated in the Anti-Corruption rally, including community network representatives, NGO staff, union members, and monks. They expressed their opinions and raised their concerns to policymakers and stakeholders. They produced a 13 minute video documenting the event.

People can use their phones to access the IVR system to retrieve information about land law. They can learn about the Organic Law in their own language. This especially benefits indigenous groups.

**Promoting Indigenous Voices (PIV)**

**Total Beneficiaries: 256 (f: 116)**

1. **Indigenous communities in Ratanakiri are empowered and supported to address IP land security and tenure issues.**

   Target communities: 2 villages in Yeak Laom commune, Ban Lung district, 2 villages in La Ok commune, O’chum district, 2 villages in Serng commune, Borkeo district, and 2 villages in PokNhai commune, Oyadao district.

To strengthen the Promoting Indigenous Voices (PIV) program, BCV worked with 13 (f: 2) PIV Management Team members to improve PIV working groups, organization structure, and the strategic plan for PIV. In October, staff coordinated workshops to raise awareness about community media and discuss the logistics of developing an independent IP NGO. An Awareness Working Group prepared plans to consult with community members. BCV is working to strengthen PIV capacity so that they can be independent in 2016.

BCV held 3 meetings with 63 (f: 32) PIV members to strengthen working groups in three villages.

BCV provided financial and technical support to Kreung, Tampeun, and Jarai ethnic groups to conduct a cultural event and media forum at Yeak Laom Lake. IP elders shared about the history of IP people and the importance of land and forests for their way of life. A total of 118 (f: 62) people participated.

Conducted trainings on:

- Community journalism with 41 PIV members (f: 14) with a focus on news writing.
- Smartphone and Facebook use with two PIV members in La-ok commune.
- Radio production with 12 PIV members from five villages.
- Drama production and audio story editing for 12 PIV members.
- Collaborated with AIPP (Mr. Cord Keller) to conduct trainings on Video for Advocacy with 10 IP activists from various sectors, including a PIV group, Indigenous Right Active Member (IRAM), Organization for the Promotion of Kuy Culture (OPKC), and Highlander Association (HA).

Continued to support PIV’s monthly meeting to discuss the strategy to promote the Audio/Video Resource Centre in La’ok commune. In June, they reviewed their management structure. Focal point persons
collected 232 thumbprints from villagers who strongly support the development of a community radio program.

PIV hired air time on two Ratanakiri radio stations: FM89.00MHz and Khmer Esan Radio FM97.50MHz. Indigenous people broadcast their audio productions every day from 8pm-9pm on FM89.00MHz and 6pm-7pm on FM97.50MHz.

**Key Result/Outcome**

IP community committees have expressed their need for PIV support in order to protect community forests, collaborate as communities, and have access to media. Radio listeners have reported that these programs are important because they encourage people to respect IP culture and care about land and natural resource protection. Listeners in these villages have requested that PIV volunteers produce more stories.

Indigenous youth groups are more involved in producing community media and have gathered information from their communities to share with PIV. Many of the leaders in PIV working groups are youth. They have a greater understanding of IP culture and the importance of land and forests for indigenous people.

Female PIV focal point persons have grown in their leadership capacity, some filling prominent roles within their communities. They have led workshops, meetings (Lam village), and have conducted advocacy trainings with community members. PIV staff have observed women tend to work for their community’s interest rather than for personal gain.

2. **Monitoring to eight target villages, field investigations, documentation, and advocacy on specific land rights cases.**

BCV staff based in Ratanakiri regularly visited all target village. BCV staff from the Phnom Penh office also conducted four field visits to strengthen PIV staff in Ratanakiri and monitor PIV’s work.

Collaborated with Equitable Cambodia (EC) to conduct discussions and consultations with IP communities who are affected by Horng Agnh GuidLine (HAGL) on land dispute cases. BCV also supported PIV to produce news articles about the HAGL case and to help them create a video of the Complaint Mechanism against HAGL in 3 different languages. The PIV program uses three languages: Tampeun, Kreung and Jarai.

Distributed media to communities and NGO partners, including: 103 video CDs, 100 books of Practice the Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for Indigenous People, and 100 copies of a REDD+ Cambodia video in the Khmer language.

Established two community Audio/Video Resource Centers in La’ok village, and Lom village. Each center was fully equipped with 310W Solar Power equipment, one 39-inch LED TV, one DVD Player, one computer laptop, and one ceiling fan. A complete set of 15W FM radio transmitter equipment was provided for future plans of setting up an IP community radio in those villages.
Key Result/Outcome

The PIV program staff are moving forward with the Organizational Development project to develop a new IP media NGO. They will be applying for registration with the Ministry of Interior so that they might be an independent IP organization. However, it is work that involves a lot of human resources and they may require more funding and staff capacity development.

PIV working groups (Tampeun, Kreung, and Jarai) produced interviews, written and audio stories, dramas, videos, posters, and other printed media highlighting various community issues. For example, PIV groups produced a 20 minute video documentary called “Indigenous Women and Environment.” This video highlights the impact of climate change on the daily lives of indigenous women. At least 120 VDC copies of this documentary were distributed to various communities.

PIV working group members are producing IP community radio programs in their own languages. They have created stories about indigenous culture, the importance of land, and songs such as the National Resources Protection Song. Media volunteers were also more active on Facebook, for example, uploading photos and articles related to illegal logging in their area. BCV also observed increased solidarity between village members, especially between elders and youth.

Volunteers have produced 307 radio productions in three different languages and broadcasted them over Ratanakiri Provincial Radio and Khmer Esan Radio. These programs reached at least 80% of the Ratanakiri population.

PIV volunteers at each resource centers conducted several meetings with community people in the village to orient them to the centers and to consult with them about establishing an IP community radio. They also collected thumbprints from the villagers who support the registration process with the Ministry of Information.

3. IP communities in Ratanakiri have improved land security and tenure

Facilitated exchange visits for learning and sharing about forest management between 12 (f: 4) focal point persons from nine provinces. BCV also coached the volunteers in writing a feature story.

On World Indigenous Peoples Day, BCV supported 50 PIV members to participate in the events held at Ratanakiri and Kratie provinces. PIV volunteers produced one news program about the events.

In November, PIV met with 19 (f: 12) people in Krola village, Poy commune to discuss land issues and women’s participation in land protection and community decision-making.

Figure 17: Celebrations on World Indigenous Peoples Day in Kratie province.

Key Results/Outcomes

Over the past three years, BCV has seen target communities gain access to information about issues relevant to their lives. More focal point persons are using social media, the internet, and listening to PIV radio programs. More people in target areas recognize the importance of community media, especially as a tool for communicating inside and outside of their villages about important issues (e.g., land rights).
Community people in La’ok village have increased their ability to access information pertaining to their village via the Community Audio/Video Resource Centre. The young IP community volunteers have worked to improve the management of this Centre.

The PIV producer team improved their video skills and have produced several high quality video documentaries that were shared in communities.

On World Indigenous Peoples Day (WID, at least 100 community people from different ethnic groups and provinces received the REDD+ video. The news article about the WID events in Ratanakiri and Kratie were produced and broadcasted on the Provincial Radio and Khmer Esan Radio evening programs.

4. Duty bearers and policy makers are held to account on indigenous land rights issues through effective lobbying and advocacy at the policy level.

Conducted two dialogue workshops with 27 community members to discuss the current situation of indigenous media and how to promote the use of media to communicate with local authorities. On the discussion panel was the Commune Chief, Village Chief, and a representative from mainstream media.

Organized numerous meetings between PIV working groups and local authorities in Poknhai commune (14 participants [f: 4]), and Yeak Laom commune (16 participants [f: 5]), and La Ok commune (18 participants [f: 5]).

Conducted two “Dialogue Workshop between IP Community and Mainstream Media” in target villages. These enabled communities, especially PIV members, to build relationships with mainstream media people and find ways to distribute community-produced media to a wider audience.

Organized and facilitated a national stakeholder consultation workshop called “The Policy and Current Situation of Media in Cambodia in Regards to Indigenous People” with 118 (f: 31) people including IP community activists, mainstream media, NGO partners, and donors. The workshop was held on the 28th of October at International Christian Fellowship Center. BCV held a 2-day pre-meeting for IP participants at the BCV office.

Key Result/ Outcomes:

Meeting with local authorities was very important for communicating BCV’s vision, mission, and activities and for building trust between authorities and PIV members. IP target communities have improved relations with local authorities and the government. Local authorities have participated in PIV meetings and provided public space for an IP media and culture center. Representatives from the Department of Information told PIV representatives that some government employees like the PIV radio program and encouraged them to increase media production.

During the National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop, participants created a Statement on Policy and Rights to Information of Indigenous People and strategic plan to promote indigenous issues on mainstream media.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

Some communities have conflicts with their local authorities who are suspicious of their community activities. However, BCV’s target groups in Kg. Chhnang, Kg. Cham, Pursat, Kg. Cham, Ratanakiri, and Stung Treng have invited authorities to join their meetings and they have improved their relationships with the authorities. In Pursat, the Child Sponsorship Program has contributed to better relationships between BCV, community members, and the authorities.
Focal point persons recommended BCV continue programs that facilitate community ownership, capacity building for networks on community media (e.g., social media), and mobilizing. Further recommendations for BCV included providing more training/consultation workshops on expropriation law, techniques for collecting and writing case studies, and IP rights. Communities expressed interest in these areas because the topics will help them to plan and implement their own advocacy activities.

BCV has had many communities come to ask for support (e.g., Kampong Speu, Kampong Som, and Kampong Chhnang). BCV does not have enough funds to adequately support these groups to conduct advocacy campaigns but hopes to do more in the future if more funding is available.

BCV has seen that having good communication with communities is important for the success of BCV’s programs. BCV will continue to seek their input about the programs and activities, and will continue to involve focal point persons in BCV planning and evaluation.

Community members have expressed their appreciation for the community radio programs, and more communities hope to open their own radio centers. BCV sees this as one of its most important programs, as it allows many people to have access to accurate information, stories relevant to their lives, and the centers are operated and financially supported by the communities themselves. BCV will continue to support existing radio centers and is working to support the establishment of more.

Conclusion

As a result of BCV capacity building activities, the target groups more fully understand their rights, generate their own media, and engage in mutual learning opportunities through community networks. Many have joined hands together to raise concerns and demand justice from relevant stakeholders. Some participants in BCV workshops have gone on to lead community activities and land advocacy campaigns.
Working from the bottom-up is very important. BCV equips communities with the tools to understand their human rights issues, but then gives them the space to make decisions and take action on their own. In the future, BCV hopes to continue to emphasize community ownership and take a minimal role in communities’ advocacy.

Community media is an effective tool for spreading information and mobilizing people for a common goal. It enables Cambodians to connect with stakeholders inside and outside of Cambodia, therefore, BCV will continue to focus on media as a tool for social change.

It is difficult to address systemic issues that impact Cambodians. However, when equipped with appropriate tools, more Cambodians are able to express their opinions and claim their rights. With the goal of preserving their natural resources for future generations, many Cambodians continue to call for an end to the human rights abuses that affect their land and livelihoods. BCV will continue to support these people.

**Story of Change**

**PIV Program, Ratanakiri province**

I am Tavang Priev, of the Krueng indigenous group, 26 years old, and born in 1988. My current address is at Kam village, La-ok commune, O Chum district, Ratanakiri province. I managed to finish my grade 5 class in 2011 in order to assist my parents in doing the farming. Besides, I have actively participated in community work such as community meetings and safeguarding the community forest with the forest commission.

Promoting Indigenous Voices (PIV) introduced me to Building Community Voices (BCV) in 2013, and they invited me to BCV consultation meetings and training courses at the provincial and municipal level on topics such as human rights/indigenous people rights, forestry law, land law, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, community mobilizing, advocacy, leadership, case-study writing, proposal writing, report/minute writing, study tour, aid analysis, and other topics. At these events, I shared my recently acquired knowledge/experience and recommended other people to attend the meetings or discussions.

Knowing BCV and participating in its meetings/trainings have surely given me more knowledge about these issues. Before being trained at BCV, I did not have much knowledge, and I am unable to write (illiterate), shy, and nervous to express my thoughts in the meetings. In my community, it is difficult to mobilize people because of a lack of cooperation and communication among community members, the local authority, and

![Figure 19: Tavang Priev at a community meeting.](image-url)
others. Furthermore, I did not understand much about land law, forestry law, human rights, and IP rights, in particular. Conversely, things have turned around. I can now mobilize people and facilitate a community meeting for roughly 10-30 participants, as well as share new experiences and knowledge with my community.

In addition, I have good collaboration and communication with community members and the local authority. For example, the local officials called on my help to organize a community meeting. Because of that, I can better improve my reading and writing in the Khmer language. In October 2014, I was elected to be member of PIV because the staff noted my willingness and behavior of helping the community.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude for BCV who gave me the opportunity to gain knowledge and experiences and helped me build my capacity. I hope BCV continues to provide indigenous community members with opportunities to build their capacity to influence the development of the community.
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