

**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**



**Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation
General Department of Technical
Elderly Welfare Department**

1. Please describe the impacts of the adverse effects of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of older person. Where possible, please share specific examples and stories.

Cambodia has been hit by the 15th typhoon, LINFA, which caused the Sekong, Sesan and Srepok River flooded, while the Mekong River in Stung Treng, Kratie and Kampong Cham rose slightly but was lower than cautious level. The 16th typhoon, NANGKA, which passed through Hainan Island before reaching northern Vietnam and affected the northwestern provinces of Cambodia, geographically adjacent provinces along the Dangrek Mountains, northeastern plateau and the Cardamom Mountains. There will be continuous heavy rain, while in the coastal areas there will be heavy rain and on the sea surface there will be mixing of rain, wind and high waves. The 17th typhoon SAUDEL has caused landfall in the Southern part of Vietnam and has weakened to low pressure and while it has been blown to Cambodia, affecting the lowland provinces, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, Pursat, Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kandal and Phnom Penh which continuously caused heavy rainfall, while the provinces in the Dangrek Mountains, the northeastern plateau and the border provinces of Vietnam including Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Ratanakkiri, Mondulkiri, Stung Treng, Kratie, Tbong Khmum and Kampong Cham provinces with heavy rainfall as well as the coastal areas with heavy rainfall mixing with strong winds and strong waves. The 18th typhoon, MOLAVE, has caused landfall in the Central Philippines and gone into the South China Sea, weakening its influence while reaching Vietnam around Quang Ngai and continued into the region, in Pasing of Laos, with a decrease in pressure and low pressure, and influence in the provinces of the Dangrek Mountains and the northeastern plateau, including Ratanakkiri, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear and Oddar Meanchey. There may be heavy rain mixing with strong winds on the lowland provinces including Kampong Thom, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, Pailin and Battambang.

Thus, Cambodia is affected by 19 provincial capitals, including: Pursat, Pailin, Banteay Meanchey, Phnom Penh, Battambang, Svay Rieng, Oddar Meanchey, Siem Reap, Takeo, Kampong Speu, Mondulkiri, Sihanoukville, Koh Kong, Preah Vihear, Stung Treng, Kampong Cham, Kandal, Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Thom. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, is the Commander-in-Chief of the Disaster has led the national and local government officials to rescue the women, kids, people with disability, women, and the elderly on time to the safe areas and has brought them food and other supplies in the emergency situation.

2. Please describe any specific policy, legislation, practice or strategy that addresses the nexus between climate change and the rights of older persons. In particular, please share any information related to policies that ensure the participation of older persons in the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures; learning from the knowledge and experience of older persons; as well as supporting the independence and autonomy of older persons. Please note and identify any relevant

mechanisms for ensuring accountability for these commitments, including their means of implementation

In the past, the Royal Government of Cambodia has set out policies and strategic plans to respond to natural disasters, including: 1) National Population Policy 2016-2030, 2) National Social Protection Policy Framework 2016, 3) National Ageing Policy 2017-2030, 4) National Strategic Development Plan 2019-2023, 5) Sub-Decree No. 244 dated on 31 December 2019 on the Establishment of the Social Assistance Sub-Committee, 6) Decision No. 26 dated on 03 April 2020 on Establish a working group for the organization and management of social assistance mechanisms; and 7) Circular No. 002 on the relief program for the victims of famine, poverty, natural disasters, eventual migration, homelessness and mental illness in the community.

3. Please share a summary or any relevant data that captures how the adverse effects of climate change have affected older persons, taking into account multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (i.e. discrimination based on a combination of multiple grounds, including disability, gender, race, colour, sex, language, religion, nationality and migration status) –including in older age cohorts.

In October 2020, the Royal Government rescued people who were affected by floods in 20 provinces- capital with a population of 148,597 families, equivalent to 594,388 people, and evacuated 11,895 families, equivalent to 47,580 people were affected, 133,203 houses were damaged and 63 houses were seriously hit, 43 people were dead, 951 schools and 307 pagodas were flooded. About 272,263 hectares of paddy fields and 96,945 hectares of mixed crops were flooded, national roads, provincial roads, red gravel roads were affected by 617 km, rural roads were flooded by 1,685 km, dams were affected by 49 km, main canals were affected, approximately 270 km of affected canals, and approximately 271 km of irrigations, approximately 146 km of riverbanks affected by flood. The Royal Government works to rescue victims and the vulnerable, such as the elderly, the disabled, children and women, regardless of political affiliation.

4. Please describe any mechanisms and tools that are in place to measure and monitor the impacts of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of older persons.

The National Committee for Disaster Management, which is the arm of the Royal Government and relevant ministries and institutions, have prepared action plans as well as prepared food to supply the people affected by the disaster, especially focusing on poor families. In addition, the Economic and Monetary Policy Committee of the Ministry of Economy and Finance has established a food security program aimed at protecting food security for the poor and vulnerable people affected by emergencies. The Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology has disseminated information related to the weather forecasting to the relevant ministries, institutions, the public to increase vigilance to avoid possible accidents, especially local authorities at all levels to be ready to save people from danger. The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation has provided food and equipment to help flood victims in all province-capital. The Cambodian Red Cross has donated materials and food to flood victims in all capitals and provinces.

5. Please identify and share examples of good practices and challenges in the promotion, protection, and fulfilment of the human rights of older persons in the context of the adverse effects of climate change, including any age-appropriate or sensitive support services that are provided.

In October 2020, floods occurred in 20 provinces capital with a population of 148,597 families, equivalent to 594,388 people, and evacuated 11,895 families, equivalent to 47,580 people, affected 133,203 houses with 63 houses were damaged and 43 people were killed, 951 schools were flooded, 307 pagodas were flooded, 272,263 hectares of rice fields were flooded

and 96,945 hectares of mixed crops were flooded, national roads, provincial roads, red gravel roads were affected about 617 km, 1,685 km flooded rural roads, 49 km of dams, 270 km of main canals, 271 km of secondary canals, 146 km of irrigation and 2195 km of riverbanks. In response to the floods, the head of the Royal Government has issued orders to local authorities and competent forces to help people escape the dangers caused by floods, especially the victims and vulnerable, the elderly, the disabled, children and women are the first to be rescued. Local authorities evacuated residents from the flooded area to safety. The head of the Royal Government also ordered to prepare a place for the people to take refuge, especially to provide food, equipment and clean water with high hygiene for people to use. The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, led by His Excellency Vong Sauth, Minister, provided food and supplies to flood victims in all capital and provinces.

6. Please include examples and good practices that highlight international and multilateral cooperation and approaches that are implemented in close consultations with and with the active involvement of older person, including through their representative organizations.

As of October 2020, Cambodia has 19 provinces-capital affected by floods. At the same time, the Royal Government has put in place measures to rescue people from danger by ordering local authorities to rescue people by evacuating them to safer places, especially the army. Competent forces also rescued the vulnerable victims (such as the elderly, the disabled, children and women). The head of the Royal Government has provided food, other supplies and some funds to support the people affected by the floods. At the same time, many charities have donated food and equipment through the Royal Government to support the victims. After the support of the charities, the head of the Royal Government issued a proverb that helping each other in times of need, knowing good friends in difficult times, this has helped Cambodians become stronger.

7. Please provided any additional information you believe would be useful to support climate action that promotes the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of older persons. The Royal Government has introduced the following laws, policies and regulations to promote the welfare of the elderly as follows:

- National Population Policy 2016-2030
- National Social Protection Policy Framework 2016-2025
- National Health Care Policy and Strategy for Older People 2016
- National Ageing Policy 2017-2030
- Law on Social Security
- Decree No. 10, dated 08 February 1993, promulgating the Law on Pensions and Disability Pensions to the Cambodian People's Police
- Royal Kram No. 07/ 94, dated 28 October 1994, promulgating the Law on Pensions and Disability Pensions for Soldiers of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces
- Royal Decree No. 0501/178 dated 22 May 2001 on the separate statute of the Cambodian National Police
- Royal Decree No. 0610/464, dated 02 June 2010, on the revision of Article 35 of the Royal Decree on the separate statute of the Cambodian National Police.
- The laws, policies and regulations mentioned above are not sufficient to respond to the welfare of the elderly. The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation is considering drafting a law on the promotion and protection of the rights of the elderly and is preparing various legal documents to improve the well-being of the elderly. And the Ministry is conducting research on improving the welfare of the elderly from ASEAN member countries and ASEAN Plus Three.