



Australia Awards

# Women's Perceptions on the Climate Change impacted their Livelihoods:

*The preparedness strategy for the adaptation  
to climate change*

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28 June 2025

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# 1. Introduction

- 80% of the population involved in agriculture which is vulnerable to climate change mainly droughts and flood.
- The survey conducted by MoE indicated that 98% of the rural population had faced climate variabilities and extreme weather change for instance increasing temperatures and irregular rainfall in their regions (MoE, 2016)
- It is, therefore, critical to enable vulnerable farmers and their local communities to cope with not only the current conditions but would be advantageous for future impacts.
- It has been observed that the participation of women/girls is important in sustainable agricultural development, but they generally have primary responsibilities within the family.

## 2. Objective

- Explore women's perceptions of the impacts of climate change on their livelihoods, primarily on agricultural development.
- Conduct a study on the knowledge and skills of women affected by climate change and how they are coping and
- Prepare preliminary climate resilience and adaptation strategies to address climate change issues and agricultural value chains, etc.



### 3. Methodology

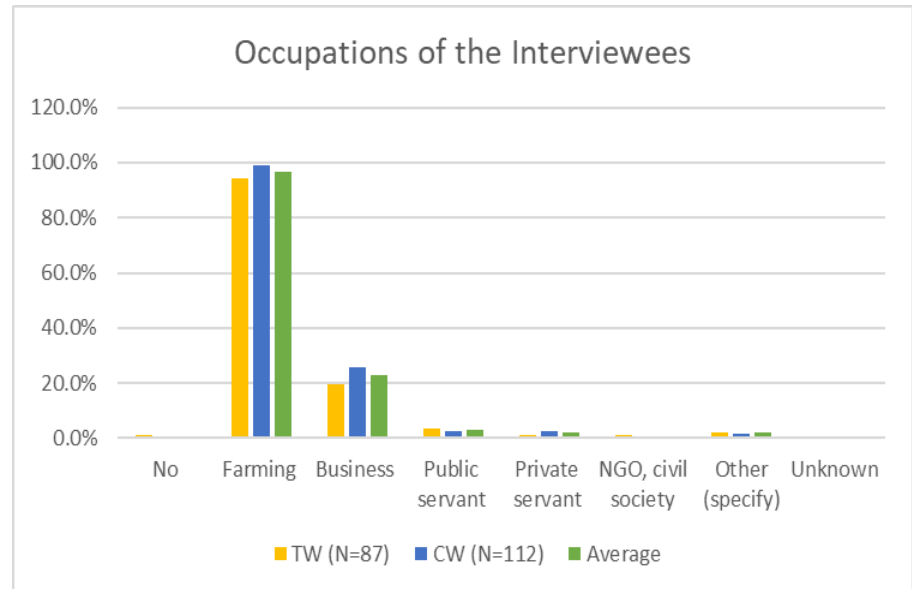


- Study a total of 199 women from 4 farming communities in Stock Thom village, Taing Krosang Commune, Batheay District and Trapang Thnoat Village, So Sen Commune, Prey Chhor District, Kampong Cham Province and Cheay Sbai Village, KoKoh Commune, Santok District and O Krauch Village, Sala Visai Commune, Prasat Balang District Kampong Thom province.
- Desk review, developed questionnaire
- Conduct interviews and focus groups, observation, collect data and analyze
- Use SPSS for data analysis
- Prepare a draft research report and finalization including presenting and disseminating the result of the research

## 4. Research Finding

### Perception on Climate Change

- Among 199 interviewed females, about 97.6% told that they are doing farming.
- About 20% are doing business and a tiny percentage are doing other income generation

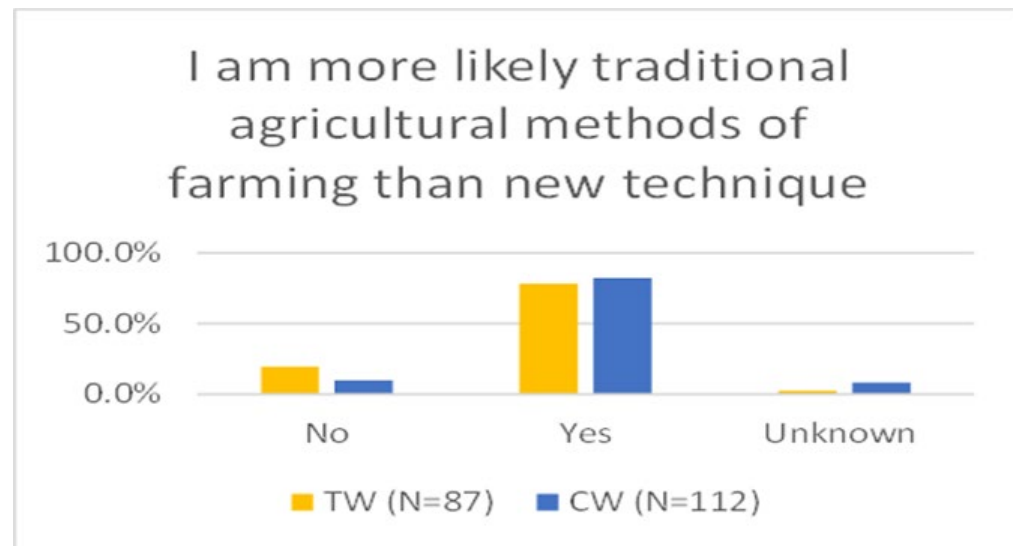


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## 4. Research Finding

Using traditional or new technique agricultural method

- 80% of agricultural workers said they still prefer traditional methods, although 20% said they might prefer new techniques.
- In this response, two approaches should be focused on improving traditional techniques to meet current challenges and/or promoting new agricultural techniques requiring additional efforts.

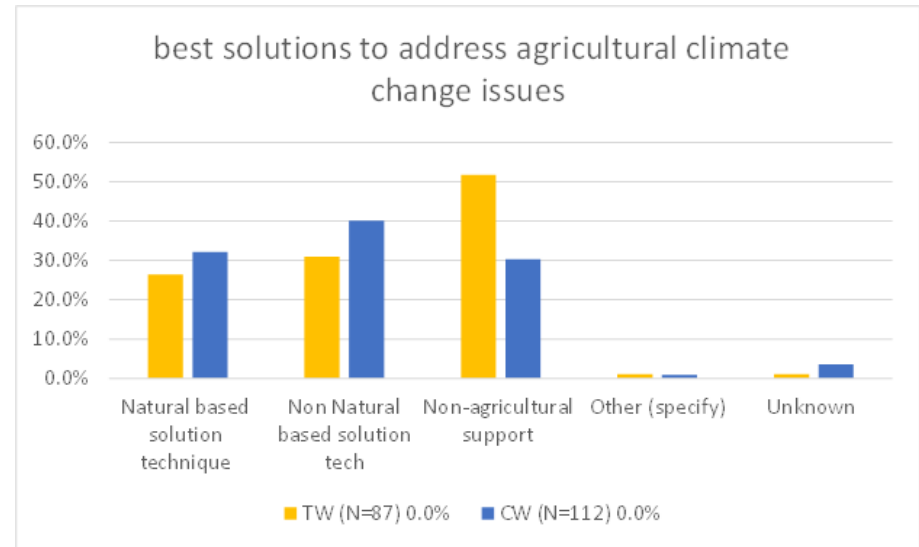


## 4. Research Finding (Cont.)

Perception of the impact of climate change on their livelihood

- 85% understand that drought and flooding and gusts of wind have affected them, and 15% said they were not aware of it
- In addition, 97% said that climate change is affecting their livelihoods. Of the three phenomena, drought is their biggest concern.
- The survey prove that almost 100% agree with the risk of climate change affecting their life and local livelihoods
- Almost 100% thought that the weather determines their crop yields and the weather determines their livelihoods
- 85% said they like new crop varieties and innovative technologies to increase their productivity and have a good market for selling their products.

## 4. Research Finding (Cont.)



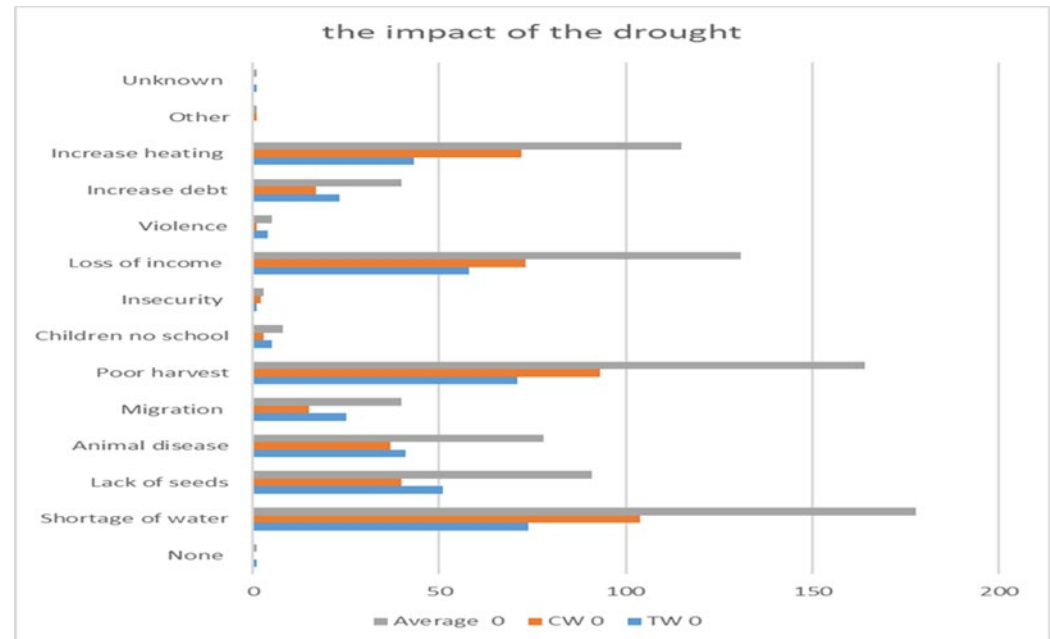
- Above 30% introduced Nature based solution as a method to address agricultural climate change issues, while other not prefer.

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## 4. Research Finding (Cont.)

The impact of drought/flood they have experienced

- Droughts typically have multiple impacts on communities, and this image shows that the most concerning impacts of drought are, first, related to the lack of water for both dry season rice and clean water for domestic use and gardening.
- The secondary impacts are associated with loss of income, heat, seed shortages, animal diseases, migration, etc.
- The impacts of drought and floods are similar.

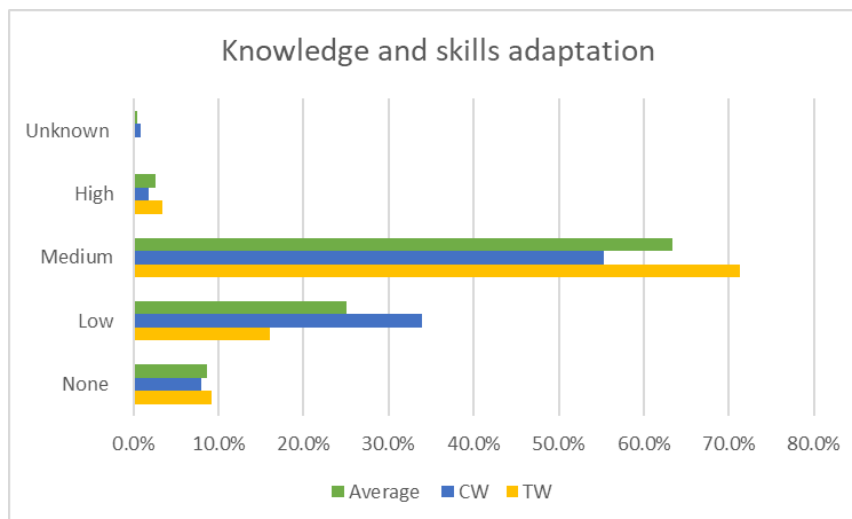


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## 4. Research Finding (Cont.)

### Knowledge and Skill for climate change adaptation

- 63.3% judge themselves as having a medium level of current knowledge and skills in adapting to climate change in farming, while 25% judged themselves as low.

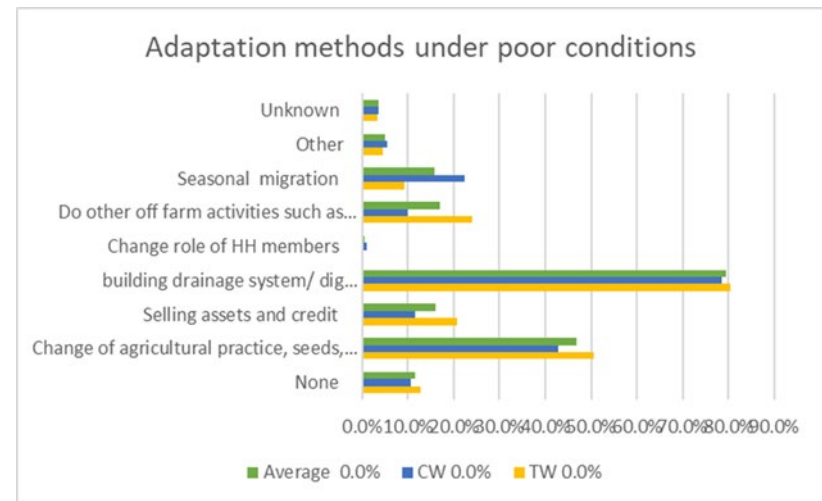


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## 4. Research Finding (Cont.)

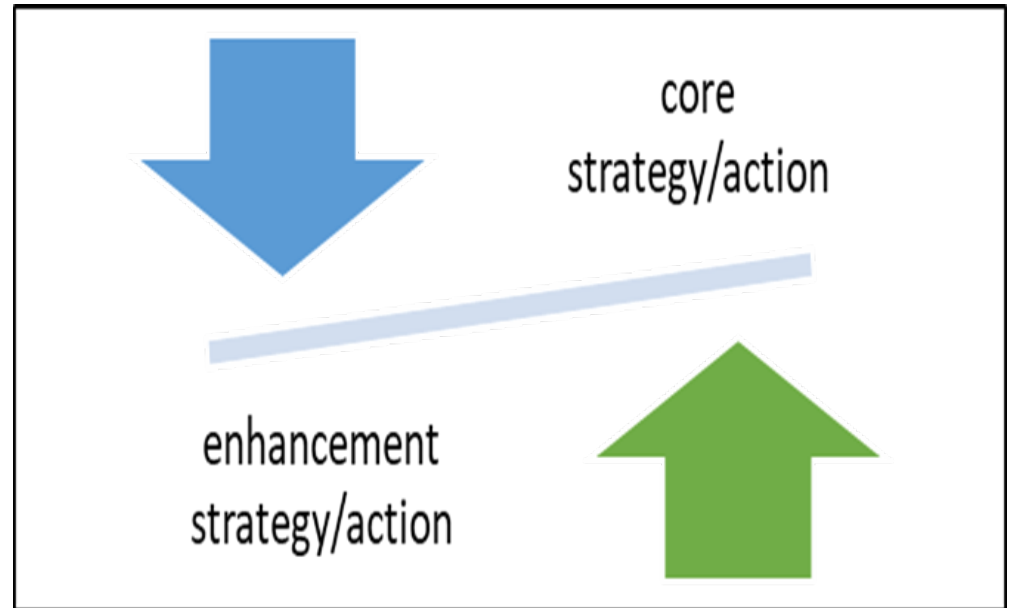
### The adaption method they have practiced

- Build a drainage system, dig ponds, dig wells to make water collection tanks are the adaptation method they have practiced.
- Research has found that as they face disaster situations such as drought and floods, credit is one of the best solutions to address their loss of income and poor harvests.
- However, they worry that some credit or scope will affect their livelihood.



## 5. Adaptation Strategy

- Appropriate strategies to adapt to changing opportunities should be considered. There are two: core strategies and supporting strategies.



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## 5. Adaptation Strategy (Cont.)

### ➤ Core strategies to adapt to changing opportunities

- Strengthening coordination and encouraging women in leadership. Gender-neutral, creating more roles and responsibilities in the community.
- Knowledge about climate change and its impacts should be provided continuously, as their mindset and understanding of new technologies and climate change are still limited.
- Improving individual and community management and technical capacity through awareness and education in climate change resilience, agriculture, and networked markets should be given additional attention.

## 5. Adaptation Strategy (Cont.)

### ➤ Core strategies to adapt to changing opportunities

- Drought is their greater concern than flooding. Therefore, any development program, especially infrastructure, Such as irrigation and clean water systems should be prioritized and facilitate markets for products, as well as crop diversification and selection of heat-resistant varieties. For example, diseases or pests, market needs, water management/irrigation system improvements.
- Adjusting fertilizer rates to maintain quality and low input costs. Seeds and other agricultural inputs and marketing remain challenges to be addressed in quality and efficiency projects.
- Credit is another alternative solution, and the exchange agent should act as a link between lenders and borrowers, including supporting businesses before granting loans.

## 5. Adaptation Strategy (Cont.)

### ➤ Support strategies to adapt to changing circumstances

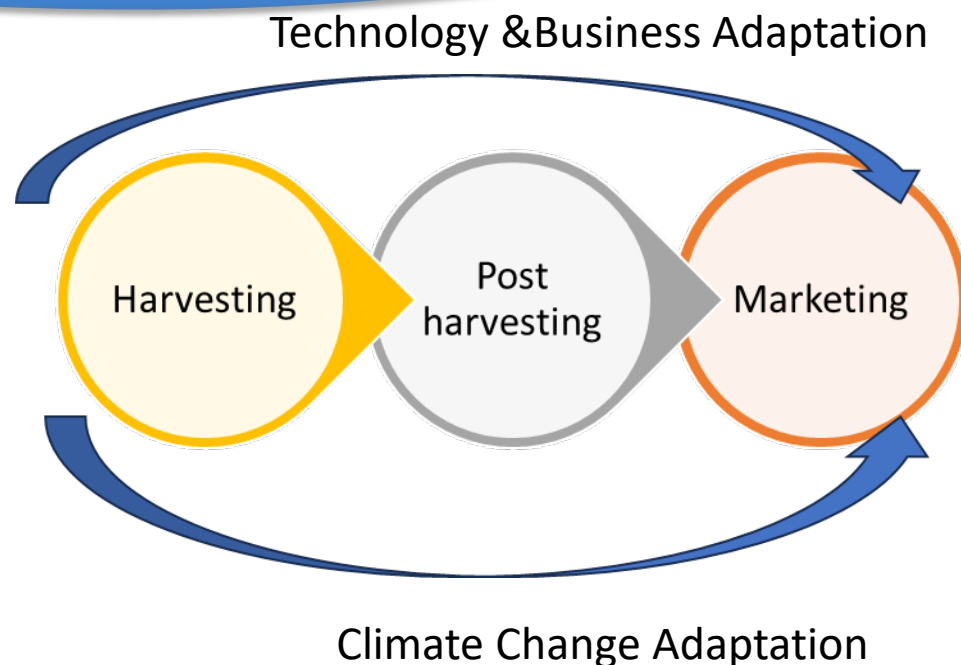
- i. Raising awareness about the impacts and impacts of climate change
- ii. Increasing participation in comprehensive analysis and planning and management, involving all parties, including women and vulnerable groups, etc.
- iii. Creating and promoting learning, innovation, and modern technology, and
- iv. Identification and implementation of agricultural, gender, climate change, and other related issues.

## 5. Adaptation Strategy (Cont.)

### Harvesting and Post Harvesting Technology Adaptation

Three main steps for adaptation and increasing income through:

- Improved quality-safety harvesting technology adaptation,
- Post harvesting technology adaptation and
- Marketing/business enhancement technology adaptation.



## 6. Conclusion and Recommendation

- The TW overall shows a bit more positive than the CW but in parallel trends
- Natural disasters such as droughts, floods, and climate change are still a concern for everyone, including farmers.
- The understanding of climate change, including the use of modern technology, agricultural marketing issues, and knowledge are still limited, and practices that should be further invested in, while future climate change is likely to be more severe and threatening, confronting the need for urgent adaptation to address livelihoods and maintain food security for communities.
- Climate resilience is critical to not only agriculture, and livelihood but also sectors such as health education, and culture and affects every aspect of life although most people believe that these phenomena are quite common in such long-term history
- A diverse and appropriate range of interventions needs to be incorporated into policies, plans and specific activities, including adequate resources, where budget constraints remain a challenge.

## 6. Conclusion and Recommendation

### ➤ Recommendation

- Adaptation strategy and action should be at least in the planning stage to confront rising and severe floods and drought
- For better outcome of the project improvement, further in-depth or specific research should be taken although this study gives foundations and guided information.
- Experiences and practices from this study should be circulated to other communities and/or development partners who work directly with the communities and
- This study reminds the success of climate change adaptation is required not only in technological adoption but also in its deeply rooted in social, cultural political, and other factors.
- The identify between TW and CW is very difficult to gather information and bias may exist.

