



Help QSA to support rural communities recover from COVID-19

Couple harvesting crops for local market – Cambodia



Using loud hailer to share health messages – Cambodia

Many communities are faring worse today than they were a year ago. Even if not directly impacted by COVID-19, they have been affected by disruptions to the markets and systems that support their livelihoods, and often there is insufficient information or healthcare facilities in rural regions. The number of COVID cases and deaths are not being recorded accurately in some countries, making it extremely difficult to contain and prevent the spread.



Quaker Service Australia

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Women's group in Uganda.



Community-run organic produce market stall, Prek Chrey, Cambodia

A Year 6 student in Tamil Nadu has drawn his ideas on climate change.

How has QSA been responding in such difficult situations?

Our project partners are best placed to tell us about the situation in their communities. With generous contributions from our supporters and the Australian Government (DFAT), QSA has supported awareness-raising and information about how to stay as well as possible, complementing and extending local services, providing health and hygiene supplies, and training in making masks, soap and sanitiser. Communities involved in our permaculture and other food security programs have been able to grow fruit and vegetables organically for their families, and sell any surplus locally.

Community-based market

In Prek Chrey, Kandal Province, Cambodia where QSA's project partner Khmer Community Development is working, a community-based market selling locally-grown produce has remained open, enabling some farmers to maintain their livelihoods, and for the community to obtain organically grown vegetables.

All QSA projects are focused on rural areas, assisting families to adapt to climate change through improvements such as water storage, crop selection and seed saving. These initiatives are designed to help lessen the impact of changes in water table levels and salinity, unpredictable rainfall patterns, and more frequent typhoons and cyclones.

Support QSA and its partners with your donation

No matter how small, we will see that it goes a long way. In return, you will receive a tax deductible receipt, and the knowledge that you are helping communities to help themselves.

How can we know our work is having an impact?

As a professionally managed organisation, QSA has systems and processes in place to manage, monitor and measure the work with our partners and its impact on the lives of the communities we serve.

We have just received some fantastic feedback from a project evaluation looking at the changes in women's empowerment and income generation in rural Cambodian communities who have been working with QSA's project partner, the provincial Department of Women's Affairs in Pursat. Through a series of focus groups, project participants were asked how their lives and livelihoods had changed following involvement in the project. Amongst the preliminary themes and comments:

- All groups reported an increase in their quality of life and family incomes which has made it possible to repair homes, increase number of livestock, and have savings.
- Following training in permaculture techniques, family health improved with reports of eating healthier organic food (free of chemicals),
- Elected female commune representatives can now confidently take direct action to protect children, increase access for people with disabilities, and reduce domestic violence, whereas before the training, they did not feel able to do this
- There's a clear theme of reduced violence in families, with women reporting a reduction in violence when they are able to contribute more to household incomes.

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- Direct Credit to Quaker Service Australia (our preferred option) BSB 814 282 A/C No. 50585902. Please include **your name** in the deposit details and advise us by sending an email to donations@qsa.org.au
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You can also donate online: www.qsa.org.au/donate

QSA continues to support communities in Cambodia, Tamil Nadu in India, Uganda, Indigenous communities in Australia, and refugee and asylum seeker communities in Australia, Bangladesh and other countries where and when possible.



Quaker Service Australia is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct and has full accreditation with the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

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