

About “Cambodia Atlas of Gender and Environment”

Climate change and its associated risks have had extensive impacts on Cambodians, with patterns of drought and flood conditions intensifying over the last decade. While in general women are known to be more negatively affected by environmental change than men, there has been relatively little research on how different groups of women and men experience and are affected differently by climate change. As such, understanding of the gender dimensions around environmental management and resilience remains weak. At the same time, there are limited number of maps available to offer this understanding especially after the period of the Millennium Development Goals, and there is a lack of maps derived from important recent national census surveys.

In 2017, The Asia Foundation initiated the “Atlas of Gender and Environment” project to provide a more in-depth understanding of how gender informs environment-related vulnerabilities, and the impact of climate change and disaster risks on different groups of women’s and men’s lives and livelihoods in Cambodia. The project has analyzed existing data and maps in order to understand environmental factors and resistance to climate change. The project provides a gender analysis of selected climate change impacts and implications for disaster risk reduction.

Map description:

❖ Illiteracy in Cambodia (Female)

The map appears to show that in populated areas, especially around Tonle Sap Lake and Cambodia’s Southwest region, there are higher number of women and girls who are unable to read. However, Ratanak Kiri appears to have more women and girls who are unable to read. This could also reflect the characteristic of this region where indigenous population are concentrated.

❖ Illiteracy in Cambodia (Male)

Similar to their female counterparts, higher number of men and boys who are unable to read concentrate in the populated areas around and to the Southeast of Tonle Sap Lake. Ratanak Kiri also has higher prevalence of men and boys who are unable to read.