Human-Centered Impact Story at Boss Leav Commune



Ms. Chan Neang lives in Da Commune with her husband and their three children — two daughters and one son. For years, both she and her husband worked in construction and took seasonal jobs like cassava digging. Their daily income of 30,000 riel was barely enough to cover food and essentials.

Their living conditions were especially harsh. They stayed in an old, unstable house that flooded every rainy season — at times, water rose up to three meters. *"There were days I looked at our leaking roof and wondered how long we could keep going,"* she said. *"Everything felt like it was falling apart — our house, our marriage, our hope."*

With limited support and mounting pressure, the couple argued frequently. Stress even led to episodes of domestic violence. Their children's education was disrupted as they struggled to stay in school.

In 2024, local authorities identified their family as one of the most vulnerable. Through the project, they received vegetable seeds, chickens for food and income, and roofing materials to rebuild their home. Ms. Neang also attended training sessions on hygiene, disaster preparedness, gender roles, and domestic violence prevention.

"Before, we used to argue a lot because of money and stress," she shared. *"But after the training, we learned how to talk to each other. Now, we solve problems together."*

Today, their income has increased to 40,000–50,000 riel per day through home gardening and poultry raising. Their roof no longer leaks. Their children go to school regularly, and Ms. Neang is able to stay home to care for them. Household harmony has also improved. *"I never thought my husband would help with chores or cooking — but now, when I'm busy with the children, he steps in,"* she smiled. *"It makes me feel like we are truly a team."*

They are also better prepared for floods. *"We pack food and medicine now when there's a warning. Before, we didn't know what to do,"* she said.

Their home, once filled with stress and uncertainty, has become a place of mutual respect, safety, and hope. *"We used to live in survival mode. Now, we live in peace."*