

## Who We Are

The Cambodian Rural Development Team (CRDT) is a local development NGO which aims to lift communities out of poverty through participatory community-based approaches. All of our initiatives aim at improving sustainable livelihoods and the well-being of rural subsistence farmers, including marginalized indigenous people. At the same time, we strive to support conservation. Since its inception in 2001, CRDT has been working to improve and diversify sustainable agriculture both to lift people out of poverty and protect natural resources from over-exploitation. Since 2006, CRDT has developed its social enterprise program aiming both to help the organization gradually become self-reliant financially while promoting life-skills and enterprise-based development for its target beneficiaries.

## What We Do

Since 2005, through securing partnerships with large international organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), CRDT has changed from implementing one-off projects to sustained integrated programs covering sustainable livelihoods, natural resource management, and community development. These aim to reach the two intertwined goals: (1) to raise rural living standards and (2) to contribute to environmental conservation. To this end, CRDT undertakes integrated community development projects through two programs: Sustainable Livelihood Development and Social Enterprises.

*"My life has changed a lot. Now I have income to buy rice and other food for my family. Raising chickens is difficult. Before I didn't know how to raise them and they all died, but by joining with CRDT and learning new techniques, my chickens are much healthier than before. Chickens provide more than just money for food – they are the foundation upon which I am building a better life for my family. Currently, I use the money earned from selling chickens to buy more pigs and the money from selling the pigs to buy wood to build a new house."*

- Mrs. Hong Limhin



**Our work is effecting many people's lives on a daily basis. Find out how you can support our work today.**

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**Cambodian Rural Development Team**  
Sustainable Development Solutions



## Sustainable Livelihood Development

*Within this program, 5 components are usually integrated into a livelihood development project undertaken by a team of experts.*

### Food Security:

Supporting livestock, aquaculture and vegetable production, and increasing the yield of rice crops in order to ensure communities have access to a protein-rich and varied diet and to diversify food sources to equip villagers to adapt to a changing climate.

### Income Generation:

Enabling farmers to identify value chains and directly access markets for their produce in order to generate income to raise standards of living. Helping to diversify income through the creation of small agricultural businesses and ecotourism.

### Water and Sanitation:

Constructing water supply systems, open wells and rain water collectors to provide communities with access to cleaner drinking water required for preventing chronic health problems. Building and restoring canals and river hand pumps to provide farmers with access to water for crop irrigation in the face of climate change. Constructing toilets to improve the health of villagers and the hygiene of the environment.

### Renewable Energy:

Working to reduce the use of trees as fuel by installing biogas digesters of our own design to capture methane gas from manure which is then used for lighting, cooking fuel and producing organic fertilizer; using solar power to generate electricity.

### Environmental Education and Waste Management:

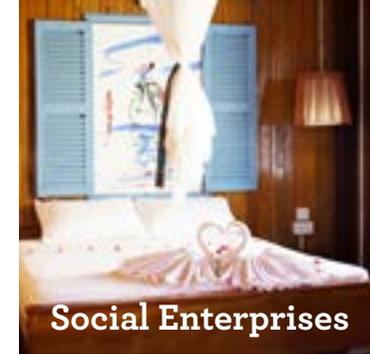
Demonstrating how environmental sustainability links to livelihoods. Enabling communities to value their environment, reduce exploitation, and manage their natural resources responsibly at a time of climatic uncertainty.

## Our Main Focus



## Our Approach

CRDT addresses poverty by engaging the following five processes.



## Social Enterprises



Our four enterprises apply commercial strategies (1) to improve human and environmental well-being and (2) to generate profits to support CRDT's Livelihoods Program.

### Conversation With Foreigners:

CWF provides conversational English-language courses to local students and support quality volunteer experiences for English-speaking foreigners while raising funds for CRDT's community-development work.

### Cambodian Rural Development Tours:

CRDTours specializes in offering unique travel experiences in the northeastern provinces of Cambodia such as Kratie, Stung Treng and Monduliri All funds generated from the tours directly support CRDT's rural-development programs. Each tour activity is designed to bring about positive contributions to the places tourists visit and the locals they meet.

### Le Tonlé:

The two guest houses with restaurants are vocational training centers offering local poor and disadvantaged youth professional training to increase their employment opportunities in tourism and hospitality industry. Trainees put their theoretical learning into practice while generating profits to support CRDT's development programs.

### Mekong Credit Association:

MCA provides financial solutions for the poor. This program aims at supporting women's groups to become economically self-reliant through job creation and enterprise development. Using Self Help Groups as a development platform, the objective of MCA is to help community group members improve their socio-economic status and contribute towards local development and natural resource conservation.