

Report on Voter Voice Workshops in 100 Remote Communes

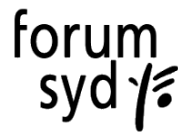


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COMFREL's Vision and Mission



1. Vision

A democratic Society that democratization in particular democratic elections are promoted and qualified to bring benefit to people.

2. Mission

To help to create an informed and favorable climate:

- For Free and Fair Elections through lobbying and advocacy for a suitable legal framework, education to inform voters of their rights and monitoring activities that both discourage irregularities and provide comprehensive monitoring data to enable an objective, non-partisan assessment of the election process, and
- For meaningfulness of Post Elections through education and public forums to encourage citizens to participate in politics and decision-making, advocacy/lobby for electoral reforms that increase accountability of elected officials and provide comprehensive monitoring data to enable an objective, non-partisan assessment of the fulfillment of political platform and performance of elected officials.

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List of acronym and abbreviation

ADHOC	Cambodian Human Rights & Development Association
BFD	Buddhism for Development
CEDAC	Cambodian Center for Study and Development in Agriculture
COFAP	Cooperation for Alleviation of Poverty
COMFREL	Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia
CPP	Cambodian People's Party
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
D&D	Decentralization and De-concentration
	National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperation
FUNCINPEC	Cambodia
HRP	Human Right Party
HU	Health Unlimited Organization
IBJ	International Bridge to Justice
ICC	International Cooperation Cambodia
ICSO	Indigenous Community Support Organization
KKKHRA	Khmer Kampuchea Krom Human Rights Association
KYA	Khmer Youth Association
LICAHDO	Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights
LWD	Life With Dignity
MVI	My Village Organization
NRP	Norodom Ranaridh Party
PNKS	Ponleu Ney Kdey Sangkhum

I. Introduction

After the commune council election, the Royal Government of Cambodia has reformed sub-national administrative system through a legal framework on the Administration and Management of Commune/Sangkat. In compliance with the above framework, the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD) has issued some policies related to commune/sangkat development plans and investment programs to effectively promote implementation of sub-national Decentralization and De-concentration (D&D) as well as good governance.

Even though the commune/Sangkat development plans and investment programs are in place to understand people's needs, people living in remote communes still cannot access some services in some particular fields. They are also facing difficulty in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of these programs.

Having noticed this issue, the Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL) with financial support from the European Union (EU) and other donors, namely OXFAM NOVIB, NPA and Forum Syd, has conducted Voter Voice Workshops in Remote Communes, workshops to identify priority needs in Remote Communes.

II. Purpose

The workshop is an initiative focused on voters, local leaders or political party representatives in each remote commune. It aims to provide:

1. Awareness of rights, roles and obligations of voters to find out priority needs in local development;
2. Voters more opportunities to participate in and debate current commune needs/concerns so as to set up their respective most five priority commune needs; and
3. A compilation of all priority needs in remote communes/Sangkat into a report. The report will enable the workshop participants remember the priority needs easily in order to push the fulfillment of commune councils toward the established priority needs and to include them into political platform of political parties for the 2012 commune/Sangkat election.

III. Methodology¹

100 communes of 18 provinces were selected among 350 remote communes across the country for organizing the Voter Voice Workshop in Remote Commune in the period of 2011-2012. By definition, a remote commune simply refers to a commune which is far from a downtown area, lacks smooth roads or is difficult to reach, no media coverage and especially belongs to indigenous peoples. Around **5,807 (1,987 female)** participants, including community representatives, civil society organization representatives, local residents and village chiefs, were divided into three plenary groups to discuss and identify priority needs in each commune. COMFREL's provincial working group cooperated with local authorities, community-based organizations and COMFREL networks to determine or invite the participants. To be invited to the workshop, the participants have to be literate or able to write and to come from all villages in that commune. In addition, local political party representatives, commune councilors and village chiefs in each commune were also invited to the workshops to involve in discussion and support of the priority needs identified and selected by the participants.

Below is the summary of the methodology for identifying priority needs:

Step 1: Participants are divided into three plenary groups and each group is composed of participants from different villages. Then, all members in each group have to discuss and choose what they consider are priority needs in their commune.

Step 2: Each group has to decide and select five needs that they think are the most important ones in the commune.

Step 3: Include the selected priority needs from all groups and ask the participants to select only five most important priority needs. Last, the members have to vote for those needs once again.



Local citizens in KoKo Romeat commune, Thma Puok district, Banteay Meanchey province are discussing and identifying priority needs on 15 November 2011.

¹In accordance with the guideline on Voter Voice Workshop in Remote Commune

IV. Workshop Result

1. Participants

The total of workshop participants in 100 communes is **5,807** (female **1987** or equal to **34%**). Among them, **743** equal to **13%** are indigenous people (Koey, Phnong, Kryng, Charai, etc...), **890** equal to **15.3%** are youths (aging from 18 to 35), **1,528** are ordinary people, **263** are community representatives and civil society representatives, **758** are commune and village chiefs, **366** are commune/sangkat councilors, **six** are district councilors and **242** are COMFREL network members.

2. Priority Needs

The results below are the compilation of the priority needs set up by voters in 100 remote communes in accordance with the commune/sangkat development plan and investment program.

2.1 Physical Infrastructures

- Request for rehabilitation of 115 paths equal to 445 Km long in 44 communes; request for construction of 240 new paths equal to 1,365 Km long in 75 communes.
- Request for rehabilitation of five paved roads equal to 12.35 km long in three communes, namely Praek Kondeang commune of Prey Veng province, Phsar Daek commune and Thmar Ko commune of Kandal province. Request for construction of 19 new paved roads equal to 159 Km long in 11 communes/sangkat.
- Request for construction of 185 bridges in 51 communes/sangkat and request for rehabilitation of two bridges in Beng commune of Oddar Meanchey province and Chhma commune of Preah Vihear province.
- Request for pond digging in 79 places located in 15 communes/sangkat. Of 15 commune, six communes request for rehabilitation of the existing ponds. These communes include Svay Chocheb commune of Kampong Speu province and Por commune of Preah Vihear province.

- Request for construction of 402 small water reservoirs in two communes: Koh Sroh Lau commune of Stung Treng province and Phan Nheam commune of Kampong Thom province. Request for 10,500 water-filtering tanks in 14 communes.
- Request for rehabilitation of 36 dams/water gates/water pumping stations equal to 27.36 Km long in 11 communes and request of construction of 36 new dams/water gates/ water pumping stations equal to 12.14 Km long in 15 communes.
- Request for construction of 24 new canals with a total of 168 Km long in 11 communes. Request for rehabilitation of 32 existing canals with a total of 120 Km long in 17 communes.
- Request for installing sewer system in 891 places in 48 communes and request for the installation of 15 drains in Svay Chocheb commune of Kampong Speu province.
- Request for digging of 2,353 new sumps in 31 communes and request for rehabilitation of two existing sumps in Thmei commune, Chit Borei district of Kratie province. Request for digging of 1,212 new hand-pumping wells in 28 communes and request for rehabilitation of three existing wells in Bor Kam commune, Ou Ya Dav district of Rattanakiri province.
- Request for construction of 34,041 new sanitation latrines in 66 communes. Among all requested latrines, there was request for construction materials to self-build the latrines for a total of 747 latrines in two communes, namely Ou Sarai commune of Takeo province and Chi Kha Kroam commune of Koh Kong province.

2.2. Education and Health

- Request for construction of public schools
 - **Kindergarten schools:** Request for 20 Kindergarten school buildings, 20 teachers. Request for school office, libraries, tables and chairs for a total of four cases in eight communes such as Preah Romkil commune of Stung Treng province, Preah Khleang commune of Preah Vihear province, Ou Chrov commune of Banteay Meanchey province, Srae Angkrong commune of Rattanakiri province, Lum Tong commune of Oddar Meanchey province, Prying Thom commune of Preah Vihear province, Kampong Reap commune of Takeo province and Chan Muol commune of Kampong Cham province.

- **Primary schools:** Request for 72 primary school building, for 351 teachers and for repairing of one existing primary school building as well as for other 40 cases related to teacher dormitory (18 cases), student dormitory (one case) and two libraries in 35 communes.
 - **Lower Secondary schools:** Request for 27 lower secondary school buildings, including one floating school, for 68 teachers, and for other nine cases related to teacher dormitory, library and school office in 19 communes.
 - **Upper secondary schools:** Request for three upper secondary school buildings in three communes, namely Samraong commune, Ta Veng commune and Chi Vaeng commune; Request for 23 teachers in three communes, namely Sam'ang commune of Stung Treng province, Chi Kha Kraom commune of Koh Kong province and Ta Veng Leu commune of Rattanakiri province. Request for other six cases related to two teacher dormitories, upper secondary school buildings and for six cases of study materials in five communes, namely Samraong commune of Stung Treng province, Bak Anlung commune of Oddar Meanchey province, Kampong Khleang commune of Preah Vihear Province, Ta Veng Leu commune of Rattanakiri province and Kaoh Chi Veang commune of Battambang province.
- Request for construction of school fences/school gates in 11 places with a total of 2,890 meter long in five communes, namely Sam'ang commune of Stung Treng province, Kbal Damrei commune of Kratie province, Knhum Krang commune of Kampong Speu province, Ou Chrov commune of Banteay Meanchey province and Tbaeng commune of Siem Reap province.
 - Request for six literate teachers in Chi Kha Kroam commune, Srae Ambel district, Koh Kong province.
 - Request for scholarship provided to poor students in four communities, namely Kampong Khleang commune, Soutr Nikom district, Siem Reap province and Bak Anlung commune, Trapeang Prasat district, Oddar Meanchey province.
 - Request for construction of 57 health care stations, for repairing of nine existing health care stations in 27 communes, for 19 midwives in 11 communes, for 32 doctors in 13 communes, for 77 doctors who specialized in Tuberculosis, eye, nose/throat and children in 15 communes and for four cases related to medicine in four communes, namely Seda commune, Bor Kam commune, Ta Veng Leu commune and Pa Tei commune of Rattanakiri province. Request for nine cases related to

medical instruments in nine communes, namely Srae Angkrong commune, Sameakki commune, Pa Tang commune, Bor Kam commune, Ta Veng Leu commune, Pa Tei commune, Poiy commune and Kys Chong commune of Rattanakiri province as well as Boeng Chah commune of Kratie province.

- Request for construction of 27 health care centers and for repairing of one existing health care center in 23 communes. Request for construction of one lounge building in Kok Ro Miet commune of Banteay Meanchey province, for 25 midwives in 12 communes, for 14 pediatricians in seven communes, for 52 doctors in 16 communes, for 21 doctors specialized in tuberculosis-eye-nose/throat in six communes. Request for nine cases of medicine in nine communes, namely Ban Anlung commune of Oddar Meanchey province, Kampong Khleang commune of Preah Vihear province, Ang Keo commune of Takeo province, Ka Pi commune of Koh Kong province, Ya Tung commune of Rattanakiri province, Kampong Cham commune of Kratie province, Ampil Toek commune of Kampong Chhnang province, Nhang commune of Rattanakiri province, and Lvea Krang commune of Siem Reap province. Request for 14 cases related to medical instruments in 14 communes, for nine ambulances in eight communes, namely Samraong Sen commune of Kampong Chhnang province, Bak Anlung commune of Oddar Meanchey province, Kampong Khleang commune of Preah Vihear province, Ta Siem commune, Tbeng commune, Srae Noiyy commune, Lvea Krang commune and Lveng Russei commune of Siem Reap province.
- Request for 1,559 insect killer-soaked mosquito nets in two communes, namely Lum Tung commune, Anlong Veng district, Oddar Meanchey province and Pa Tang commune, Lompat district, Rattanakiri province.

2.3. Land

- Request for land resolution for a total of 41 cases in 22 communes. These cases are involved with local residents, companies, development companies and the powerful persons.
- Request for social land concession for housing in a total of seven cases in seven communes, namely Romney commune of Preah Vihear province, Tom Ring commune of Kampong Thom province, Kbal Damrei commune of Kratie province, Kampong Cham commune of Kratie province, Seda commune of Rattanakiri, Pi Thnou commune of Kratie province and Nhang commune of Rattanakiri province. Request for social

land concession for agricultural purposes in a total of 13 cases in 12 communes, namely Tom Ring commune of Kampong Thom province, Kbal Damrei commune of Kratie province, Ya Tong commune of Rattanakiri province, Bro Moey commune of Pursat province, Seda commune of Rattanakiri province, Lum Tung commune of Oddar Meanchey province, Pir Thnu commune of Kratie province, Kaoh Chi Veang commune of Battambang province, Nhang commune of Rattanakiri province, Kro Ya commune of Kampong Thom province, Pnhi Meas commune of Koh Kong province and Chroey Bros commune of Koh Kong province.

2.4. Natural Resource and environmental management

- Request for prevention of forest logging and request for protection of natural resources/hydro-power dam for a total of 15 cases in 13 communes.
- Request for prevention of illegal fishing for a total of 10 cases in nine communes, namely Ta Los commune of Battambang province, Toek Vil commune, Phsar Daek commune, Leuk Daek commune and Thmar Ko commune of Kandal province, Damrei Poun commune and Praek Kondeang commune of Prey Veng province, Sambo commune of Banteay Meanchey province and Pnhi Mease commune of Koh Kong province.
- Request for establishment of fishing community, forestry community and high-speed machine boat community for a total of 13 cases in nine communes, namely Romni commune, Poh commune, Prying Thom commune, and Reaksa commune of Preah Vihear province, Tueun commune, Ta Veng Leu commune, Ka Lieng commune and Lung Kung commune of Rattanakiri province, Kaoh Chiveang commune of Battambang province, Krang Skea commune of Kampong Chhnang province and Chroey Bros commune of Koh Kong province.

2.5. Administration and Security

- Request for protection of security and public order from thief, snatching activity, robbery and gang group for a total of six cases in six communes, namely Toek Vil commune of Kandal province, Joim Kro Vien commune and Peam Chi Leang commune of Kampong Cham province, Damrei Pung commune, and Boeng Char commune of Kratie province as well as Plov Tuk commune of Kampong Chhnang province.
- Request for acceleration of issuance of Khmer Identity Card for seven cases in seven communes, namely Svay Choh Chi commune and Khchom Krang commune of

Kampong Speu province, Choam Krovean commune and Peam Chileang commune of Kampong Cham province, Plov Tuk commune of Kampong Chhnang province, Buk Roong commune and Tropeang Jo commune of Kampong Speu province.

- Request for land registration for a total of nine cases in seven communes, namely Pnhi Meas commune of Koh Kong province, Kampong Damrei commune of Kratie province, Dak Dam commune and Srae Khtum commune of Mondulkiri province, Krang Skhear commune of Kampong Chhnang province, Chi Kor Kroam commune of Koh Kong province and Meam Chileang commune of Kampong Cham province.

2.6. Construction of Police Station, Administrative Office, Commune and Village Hall

- Request for construction of commune police stations and administrative offices for a total of nine cases in nine communes, namely Toek Vel commune and Phsar Daek commune of Kandal province, Ou Chrov commune, Boeng Beng commune and Sambo commune of Banteay Meanchey province, Krosang commune and Beng commune of Oddar Meanchey province, Nhang commune of Rattanakiri province and Brolai commune of Koh Kong province.
- Request for construction of commune hall in compliance with the standard set by the Ministry of Interior for a total of 12 cases in 12 communes. Request for the reducing of public services such as issuance of a birth certificate and marriage certificate for a total of two cases in two communes, namely Chi Kor Kroam commune of Koh Kong province and Chan Moul commune of Kampong Cham province.
- Request for construction of seven village-meeting hall in six communes, namely Kchom Kraeng commune of Kampong Speu province, Srae Ktum commune of Mondulkiri province, Ta Veng Lueu commune, Lung commune and Pa Tei commune of Rattanakiri province, Outa Soam commune of Pursat province.

2.7 Others

- Request for construction of two public eating halls in Srae Angkrong commune of Rattanakiri province and Raeng Tel commune of Pursat province. Request for construction of two monasteries in Raeng Tel commune of Pursat province and Prying commune of Preah Vihear province. Request for construction of four cemeteries in Koh Chi Veang commune of Battambang province and for land refilling for construction of a pagoda for a total of two cases in Kbal Damrei commune of Kratie province and Chan Muol commune of Kampong Cham province.
- Request for an intervention in reducing oil price for a total of nine cases in eight commune, namely Banteay Chakrei commune of Prey Veng province, Ou Chrov

commune and Boeng Beng commune of Banteay Meanchey province, Dambuk Rong commune of Kampong Speu province, Prek Kandeang commune of Prey Veng province, Chheur Khmau commune of Kandal province and Srae Char commune of Kratie province.

- Request for organizing 35 legal trainings and other trainings related to the Criminal Code, Traffic Law, Land Law, sanitation and health, Labor Law, climate change and dengue fever in 28 communes.
- Request for organizing 30 trainings related to domestic violence, gender, children right, child labor trafficking, women trafficking and discrimination against women in 26 communes.
- Request for organizing 11 trainings on how to make natural fertilizer, how to use chemical substances and request for rice seeds and plants for a total of 11 cases in 11 communes.
- Request for construction of a new port in Pnhi Meas commune of Koh Kong province and request for rehabilitation of three existing ports in Kaoh Chiveang commune of Battambang province.
- Request for establishment of three tourism communities in Kaoh Chiveang commune, Aek Phnom district, Battambang province.
- Request for electricity/running water network supply, generator/water pumping machine and for reducing electricity/running water price for a total of 29 cases in 27 communes.
- Request for establishment of three local agricultural markets in Boeng Beng commune, Kok Romeat commune and Ou Chrov commune of Banteay Meanchey province.
- Request for animal vaccine, vets, animal species, rice-milling machine and tractor for a total of 29 cases in 27 communes.
- Request for protection of forest and indigenous tradition and costume such as languages and daily using tools in Rom Tom commune of Ro Veang district, Preah Vihear province.



Commune political party representatives who participate in the Voter Voice Workshop in Remote Commune are expressing their respective view on the five priority needs

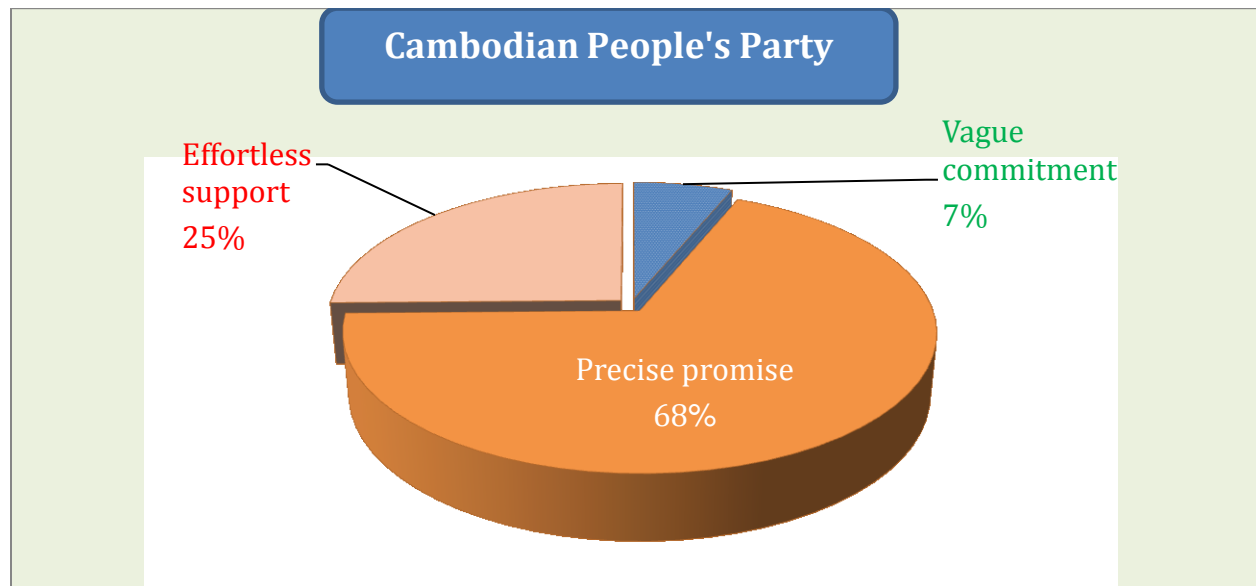
3. Commitment made by local political party representative during the workshops

After the priority needs in each commune were already set up by the participants during the workshops, all invited local political party representatives made commitment to implementing those priority needs by variety of means. Their commitment could be categorized into three main manners such as precise promise, effortless support without making any promise and vague commitment.

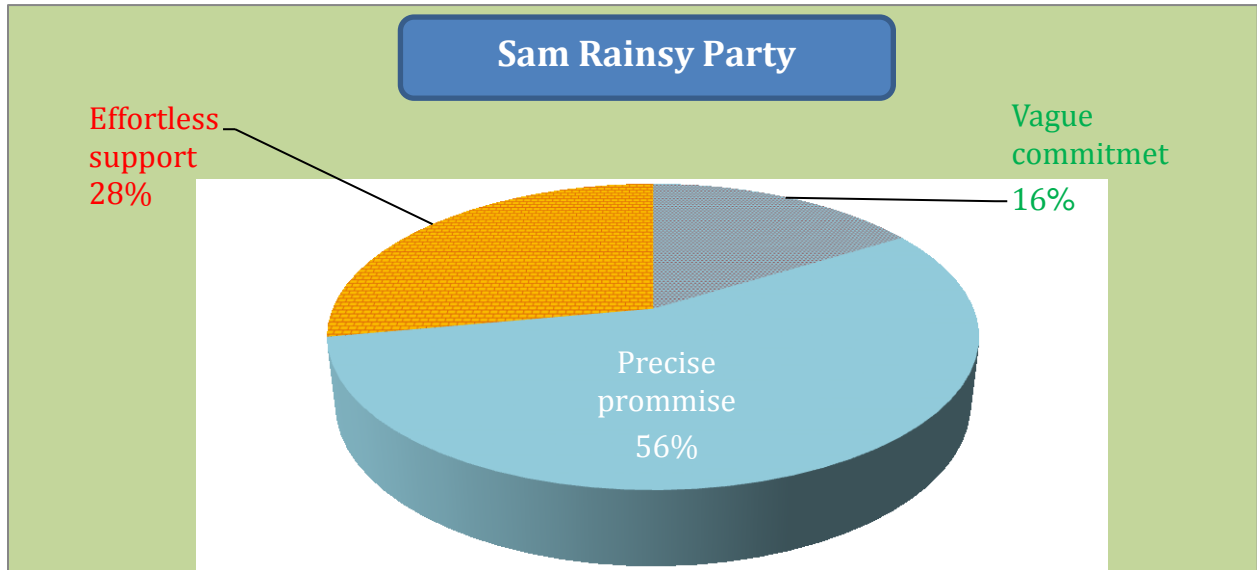
Explanation:

- **Precise promise:** This refers to strong commitment made by local political party representative to incorporate the priority needs proposed by voters into commune development plan, investment program, political party platform, provincial convention, and provincial integration plan. This promise will be surely resolved if the promised party is elected.
- **Effortless support without making any precise promise:** This refers to an expression or congratulation of political party representatives on the established priority needs or an observation/pushing for solution without identifying any mean of including those needs into any program.
- **Vague commitment:** This refers to general expression/view made by invited guest speakers (political party representatives) not on the five established priority needs in the workshop or it simply refers to raising other issues.

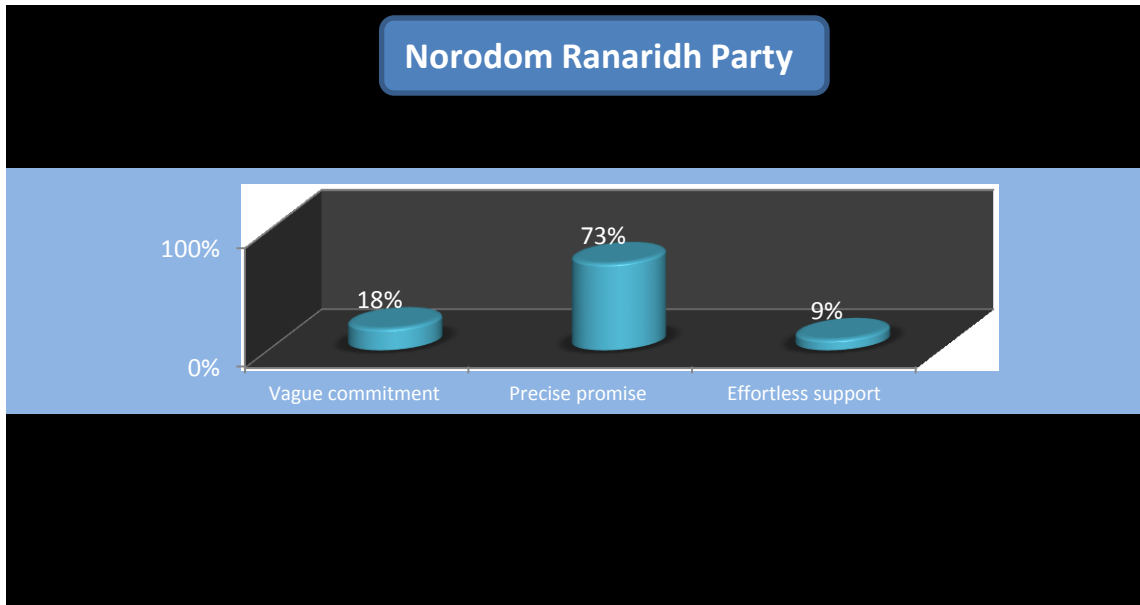
Below are the commitments made by the **Cambodian People's Party (CPP)** at commune level: Among all, 68% are precise promises to incorporate the five priority needs in each commune into the commune/sangkat development plan, investment program and into its party political platform. 25% are effortless support without making any promise and the other 7% are vague commitments on the five priority needs compared to 95 workshops participated by CCP officials out of the 100 COMFREL-organized workshops.



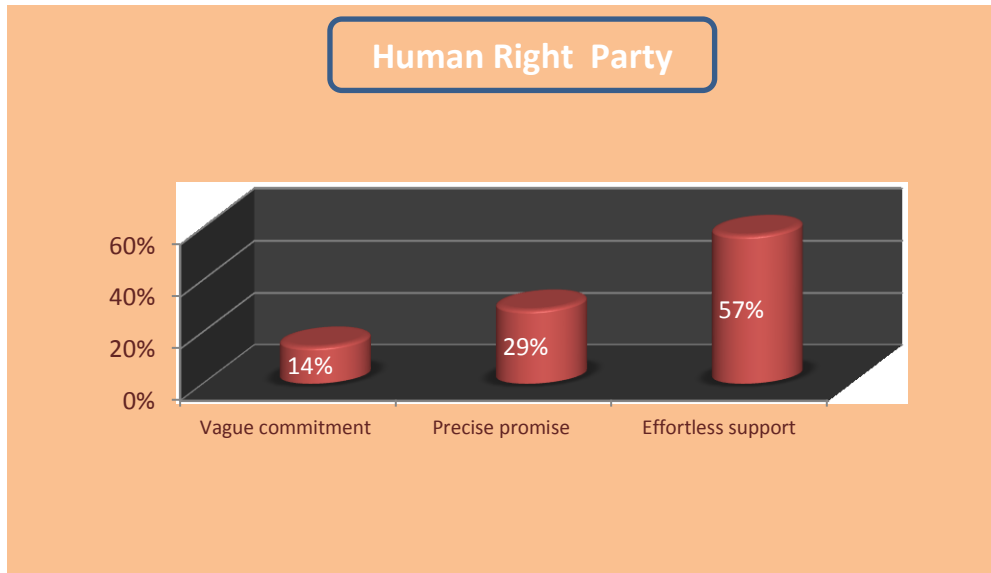
Below are the commitments made by the **Sam Rainsy Party (SRP)** at commune level: Among all, 56% are precise promises to incorporate the five priority needs in each commune into the commune/sangkat development plan, investment program and into its political party platform. 28% are effortless support without making any promise and the other 16% are vague commitment on the five priority needs compared to 68 workshops participated by SRP officials out of the 100 COMFREL-organized workshops.



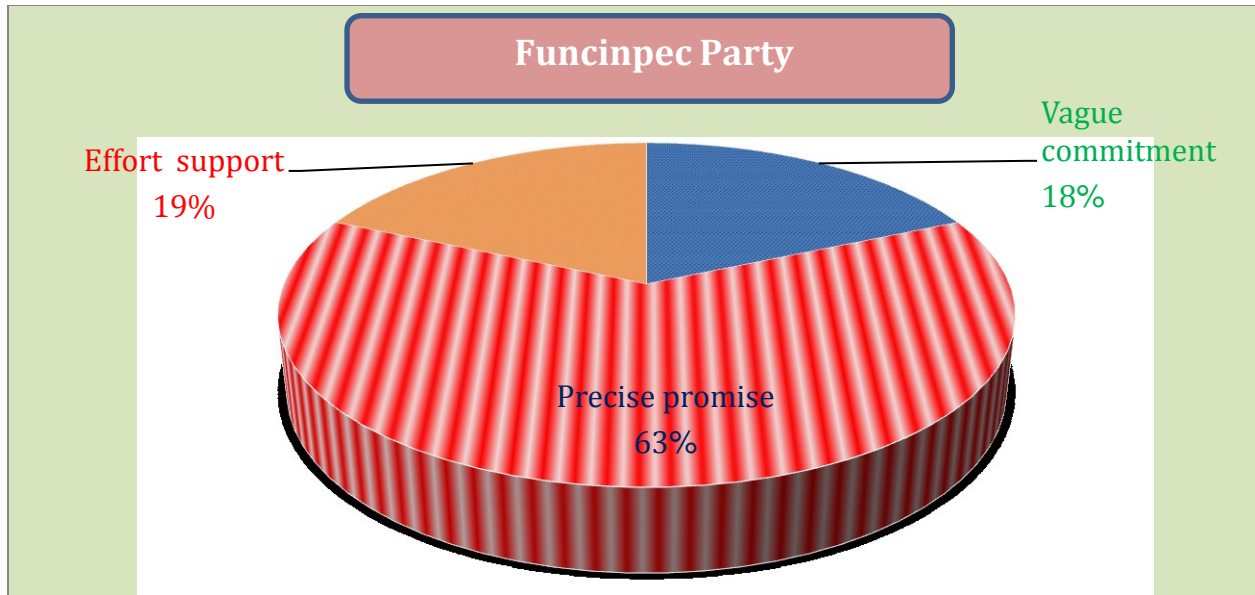
Below are the commitment made by the **Norodom Ranariddh Party (NRP)**: Among all, 73% are precise promises to incorporate the five priority needs in each commune into the commune/sangkat development plan, investment program and into its political party platform. 9% are effortless support without making any promise and the other 18% are vague commitment on the five priority needs compared to 11 workshops participated by NRP officials out of the 100 COMFREL-organized workshops.



Below are the commitment made by the **Human Right Party (HRP)**: Among all, 29% are precise promises to incorporate the five priority needs in each commune into the commune/sangkat development plan, investment program and into its political party platform. 57% are effortless support without making any promise and the other 14% are vague commitment on the five priority needs compared to seven workshops participated by HRP officials out of the 100 COMFREL-organized workshops.



Below are the commitments made by the **Funcinpec Party (Fun)**: Among all, 63% are precise promises to incorporate the five priority needs in each commune into the commune/sangkat development plan, investment program and into its political party platform. 19% are effortless support without making any promise and the other 18% are vague promises on the five priority needs compared to 27 workshops participated by Fun officials out of the 100 COMFREL-organized workshops.



4. Selection of local volunteers

285 (84 female) local volunteers were selected during the 100 workshops. The selection criterion is as follow:

- Being able to read and write Khmer letters (literacy);
- Being able to send SMS via mobile phone;
- Being gentle and courageous;
- Having time to do a neutral volunteer work;

This selection aimed to let the local volunteers observe and push commune councilors or local political parties to perform their duty in accordance with their made promises or commitment during the workshop. These local volunteers will be also allowed to evaluate people’s satisfaction or dissatisfaction on promise fulfillment performed by their respective commune councilors or political parties via collecting the score cards filled in by local people in their own commune and sending them to the COMFREL head office and to COMFREL’s website: cambodiavoterveice.org.

V. Dissemination of workshop results

After receiving the workshop result in each commune, COMFREL disseminated that the result on the five priority needs to the following channels:

- Commune political party representatives, COMFREL local volunteers and people at commune level;
- All political parties at provincial and district level;
- Public media (newspapers and radios) and on COMFREL’s website; and

- Broadcasting via COMFREL Civil Society Voice radio program

VI. Monitoring

The local volunteers will be also allowed to evaluate people's satisfaction or dissatisfaction on promise fulfillment performed by their respective commune councilors or political parties via collecting the score cards filled in by local people in their own commune and sending them to the COMFREL head office and COMFREL's website:cambodiavotervoice.org

VII. Appendix

Appendix 1

Name of commune, district and province where Voter Voice Workshops in Remote Communes were conducted and code number of press release

N.o	Commune	District	Province/ca pital	Cooperating NGO and association	Expression raised by each political party															Code number of press release				
					Precise promise					Effortless support without promise					Vague commitment									
					CP P	SR P	N RP	H RP	FU N	CP P	SR P	N RP	H RP	FU N	CPP	SR P	N RP	H RP	FU N					
1	Kaoh Chi Veang	Aek Phnum	Battambang	KYA	1				1			1										31		
2	Ta Loas	MoungReussi		ADHOC							1	1											88	
3	Kouk Romiet	Thma Puok	Banteay Meanchey	ADHOC, Cambodia Golden Land NGO	1	1			1													63		
4	Sambo	Mongkul Borei		Sronal Fishing Community	1				1														33	
5	Ou Chrov	Ou BeiChoan		ADHOC, Cambodia Golden Land NGO	1							1											69	
6	Boeng Beng	Malai		ADHOC and Community for Agricultural Development					1		1												28	
7	Peam Chileang	Tboung Khmum		ADHOC							1												67	
8	Choam	Memot	Kampong Cham	ADHOC							1											13		
9	Choam Kravien			ADHOC	1																			
10	Chan Mul			ADHOC and Development Partner NGO								1												11
11	Krang Sda	Toek Pus		Kampong Chhnang	ADHOC, KKKHRA, and Action NGO for			1	1			1											26	

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89	Kaoh Sralay	Siem Bouk	Treng	No	1																18		
90	Kaoh Preah			ADHOC												1							43
91	Preah Rumkel	Thala Borivat		ADHOC	1	1																89	
92	Sam' ang			KKKHRA	1																		99
93	Ou Sarai	Tram Kak	Takeo	ADHOC and Ou Sarai Agriculture Development Community	1	1									1							53	
94	Kampong Reab	Prey Kabbas		Oxfam NGO, Fishing Community						1	1		1										37
95	Cheung Kuon	Samraong		ADHOC	1						1		1										47
96	Traing	Angkeo		Fisheries community	1	1							1										94
97	Lomtong	Anlong Vaeng	Oddar Meanchey	ADHOC	1						1											60	
98	Beng	Banteay Ampil		ADHOC and Dung Beng Forestry Community							1			1			1						33
99	Krasang	Chong Kal		ADHOC	1									1									42
100	Bak Anlung	Trapaeng Prasat		ADHOC		1											1						95
Total	100 Commune	70 district	18 provinces		65	38	08	02	17		24	19	01	04	05	06	11	02	01	05			

Appendix 2: Program of Voter Voice Workshop in Remote Commune



Time	Activity	Person(s) responsible
7:30-8:00	Participant registration and pre evaluation	Three group leaders
8:00-8:05	National Anthem	All participants
8:05-8:15	Explain the workshop objectives, expectation of the workshop result and roles of voters	Provincial secretary
8:15-8:25	Workshop opening remark	Chief of commune councilors
8:25-8:30	Presentation on commune/sangkat priority needs obtained by pre workshop observation	Civil Society Organization/community representatives
8:35-9:30	Presentation on how to identify commune/sangkat priority needs and on division of discussion groups (group 1, group 2 and group 3)	Facilitator
9:30-9:45	Coffee break and refreshment	COMFREL provincial secretary
9:45-11:00	Group discussion	All participants
11:00-11:30	Group presentation	Group representatives
11:00-12:30	Lunch break	
12:30-01:00	Group presentation (continued)	Group representatives
1:00-1:30	Vote for five most important priority needs	All participants
1:30-1:45	Coffee break and refreshment	
1:45-2:00	Selecting and Introducing three network components Impression by volunteers (name, village, occupation and feeling of being a volunteer)	Facilitator
2:00-2:10	Vote for confidence on the five most important priority needs	Facilitator
2:10-2:30	Completion of post test and distribution of result to the participants	Working group
2:30-2:55	Submission of the workshop result on the five priority needs to commune councilors and impression remark	Commune political party representatives
2:55-3:00	Closing remark	Provincial coordinator

Appendix 3: Methodology on Process of Organizing Voter Voice Workshop in Remote Commune

The workshop is organized for one day with the following main activities: participant registration, the opening of workshop program, workshop objective presentation, presentation on commune/sangkat priority needs, group division, group discussion and vote of confidence on the most five important priority needs.

1. Registration, document distribution, and pre-test completion

At least two registration counters are organized and the pre-test and post-test with same number are also distributed to the participants during the registration period. This means that if the participants are literate (able to read and write), they have to submit the pre-test and post-test which have the same number (if the pre-test is numbered 1, the post-test is also numbered 1). Then the workshop registrant has to give the participants the workshop document, including a pen and a workshop agenda. **Three group leaders are responsible for participant registration.**

2. Opening of workshop program

The workshop will be started with an opening remark stating objectives and workshop program and workshop process made by a provincial coordinator or provincial secretary. Next, a chief of commune councilors will be invited on the stage to express his/her welcome remark at the opening of the workshop. Invited civil society organization representatives or community representatives have to make a presentation on commune/sangkat priority needs which have been identified prior to the workshop. This presentation is to raise the participant's awareness on their commune/sangkat priority needs.

3. Explanation on how to identify priority needs and division of discussion groups

The workshop facilitator will explain on how to identify priority needs and divide the participants into three groups. Each group has to discuss the same topic related to commune/sangkat priority needs.

Each group has to have at least 16 members. The group division is proceeded by asking the participants to raise their hand up and count themselves from number 1 to number 3. Next members of each group have to join their group according to their counted number. In each group, three members have to be selected as a group leader responsible for group discussion facilitation, a report writer and a presenter. It should be noticed that the three group leaders have to be chosen from COMFREL network, CBO or community representatives.

4. Group discussion

The discussion group facilitator has to be aware of the group discussion process and receive pre explanation on the process of group discussion. She/he then has to explain about a group discussion guideline to his/her group members. The guideline will be given to the group leaders and the working group discussion will be held one day prior to the workshop.

Each group has to discuss and find out commune/sangkat priority needs. After the priority needs are identified in each group, the group members have to give a final vote to select only five most important priority needs out of the identified needs. Thus, there are 15 priority needs taken from the three groups. The facilitator in each group has to ask his/her group members about priority needs that people need the most in their commune. However, those needs have to be precisely identified by application of the following questions: doing what? where? How many? and when doing it?

5. Categorization of each priority needs into specific sections

After the thorough discussion among group members, each group representative has to submit his/her discussion result to the working group to categorize them into specific sections. It means that there are three discussion groups. If the first group mentions the road rehabilitation and the second group also raise the same topic, then these priority needs will be included in a same **Road** section. If the two groups raise issues related to construction of a school building and repairing of any existing school building, then those issues will be categorized into a **School** section.

6. Selection of five priority needs and voting for them

After the priority needs have been categorized into the specific sections, the working group has to present those categorized needs to the participants and read them loudly. Since the priority needs might be categorized into many specific sections, the participants are required to select or vote for only five most important priority needs. All priority needs need to be written on big clip charts for letting the participants make decision on which five priority needs among the 15 needs they value the most. The participants have to select priority needs from five sections and write them down on paper given by COMFREL's working group. After selecting the five priority sections and writing them down on paper, they have to submit it to the COMFREL working group to consolidate the results. In case that some participants are illiterate, they have to inform to the working group to let them vote for those needs.

7. Vote of confidence for five priority sections

After consolidation of the result of the priority needs incorporated into the five specific sections, the COMFREL working group has to show the five priority sections and read them loudly to the audience to let them aware of the five priority sections which have been given the top highest scores. In case the fifth and the sixth priority needs have been given the same score, the participants will be required to select only one priority section out of the two by raising their hand up. When the working group has already selected the five priority needs, the participants are required to vote for accepting those needs once again by raising their hand up. If the hand-raising vote gains an absolute majority voice (50+1), then the selection of the five priority sections will be endorsed. If it fails to gain the absolute majority voice, then the selection of priority needs will be required to conduct again.

For special case: *After the discussion, if the priority needs have been categorized into only five specific sections, the selection of five priority sections is not necessarily conducted. The participants can go on to the next step of vote of confidence for the five sections. If the priority needs identified by the participants have been categorized into only three specific sections, the workshop facilitator has to prompt the participants to discuss and identify two more priority needs (if possible).*

8. Selection of local volunteers

COMFREL will select three local volunteers (local watchdogs) in each commune/sangkat where COMFREL conducts a workshop. The selection criterion is as follow:

- Being able to read and write Khmer letters (literacy);
- Being able to send SMS via mobile phone;
- Being gentle and courageous;
- Having time to do a neutral volunteer work;

COMFREL's district contact person or activist has to notice or identify three potential participants which meet the above selection criterion during the workshop process and then introduce them to the whole workshop and ask them to express their personal impression (name, their village, occupation, personal feeling of being an volunteer).

9. Post-test completion and submission of workshop result to invited guest speakers and participants

After selection of three volunteers, the COMFREL working group has to ask the participants who have already completed the pre-test to fill in the post test. While the participants are filling in the post-test, the working group has to write the five priority needs for distributing to all participants.

After the participants complete the post-test, the COMFREL working group has to submit the workshop result to the guest speakers and all participants.

Each group leader is responsible for writing down the five priority needs for his/her own group members and for making sure that all participants receive the priority needs by any kind of mean.

10. Remark on the five priority needs

The Invited guest speakers who are local political party representatives will be asked to express their personal impression on the five most important priority needs established by the workshop participants in the commune/sangkat.

Note: *The five priority needs of each commune mentioned in the report on Voter Voice Workshop in 100 Remote Communes are the most important needs that local people in rural communities have identified and proposed by themselves, and the political party representative in each commune have also promised to implement them. Thus, COMFREL would like to appeal to all people, including indigenous groups, political parties at national and local level and stakeholders to together take part in following up and evaluating the implementation of those priority needs after the 2012 commune council elections.*