Socio economic impact assessment of COVID-19 in Cambodia - Oct 2021

In the month of October '21...

52% households faced income reductions & 16% lost jobs - slightly better than July 2021. 11% lesser households adopted crisis or emergency level coping strategies to meet essential food needs.

The number of households with incomes in the 0-150 USD (lowest bracket) has doubled since March 20.

60% of respondents have a loan at a median value of USD 3,000

6% had trouble accessing health services, 10% accessing medicine, and 21% accessing food.

Respondents reported feeling anxious more often than in July '21 but were also, in general, more optimistic about the future.

As schools reopened (for 47% of the respondents' children), there was a 14% decrease in violent methods of child discipline, decrease in number of children engaged in work outside the house, and lower levels of depression/sadness reported amongst children.

Food Consumption in urban areas has steadily worsened since Mar'21. In October, with food price spikes in urban areas, urban households reported worse FC scores than rural households. Despite that, Dietary Diversity remains slightly better in urban areas due to better access to diverse foods.

Vitamin A intake plummeted in October 2021. The percentage of HHs not consuming protein regularly also increased to 9%. Diets mostly consist of rice, fish/meat, and green leafy vegetables.

The gap between females and households consuming minimum acceptable diets (more than 5 food groups) increased to an all time high of 32%.

89% pregnant women had access to and used ANC/PNC services

10% more households are spending time daily to support their children’s education, than in July.

Despite reopening of schools, dependence on distance module materials continued.

More respondents reported feeling anxious more often than in July '21 but were also, in general, more optimistic about the future.

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• Improvements are seen from July to October '21, with fewer wage reductions and job losses, slightly improved household incomes, and better access to goods and services.

• The quality of diets has also deteriorated since July '21, seen by a reduced HH intake of Vitamin A and protein, likely due to HHs prioritizing cheaper food commodities due to October price spikes.

• While food consumption levels and dietary diversity has moderately improved since July, food consumption in urban areas has steadily worsened since March '21 and is now worse than in rural areas.

Re-vitalization of economic activity is in sight as most restrictions on movement and quarantine have been lifted.