

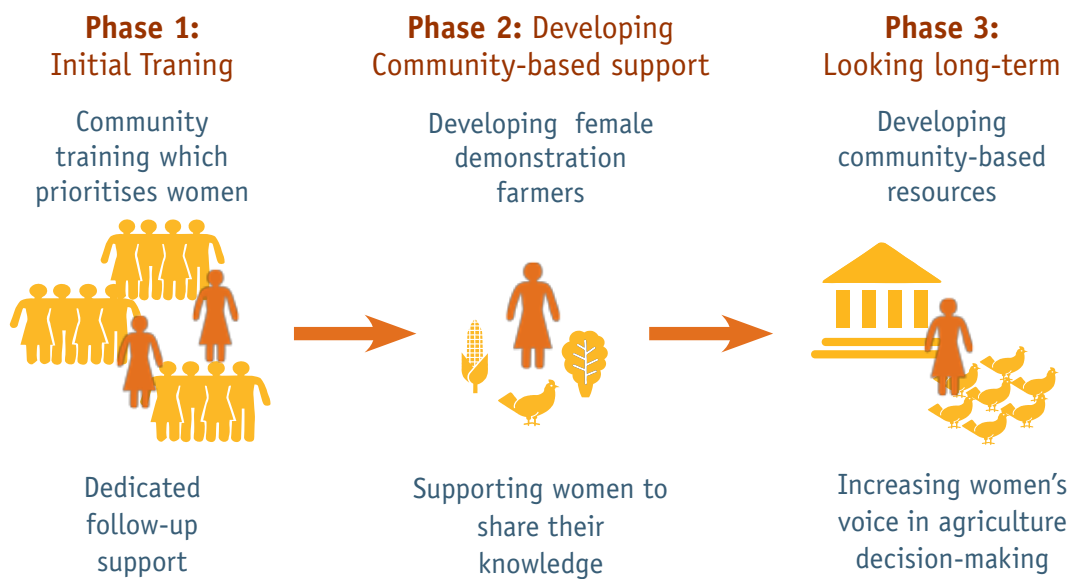
Developing female leaders in agriculture

Promoting women’s inclusion in agriculture doesn’t just mean inviting them to training it means ensuring training suits their needs and encouraging women to continue developing so they can become leaders in their communities.

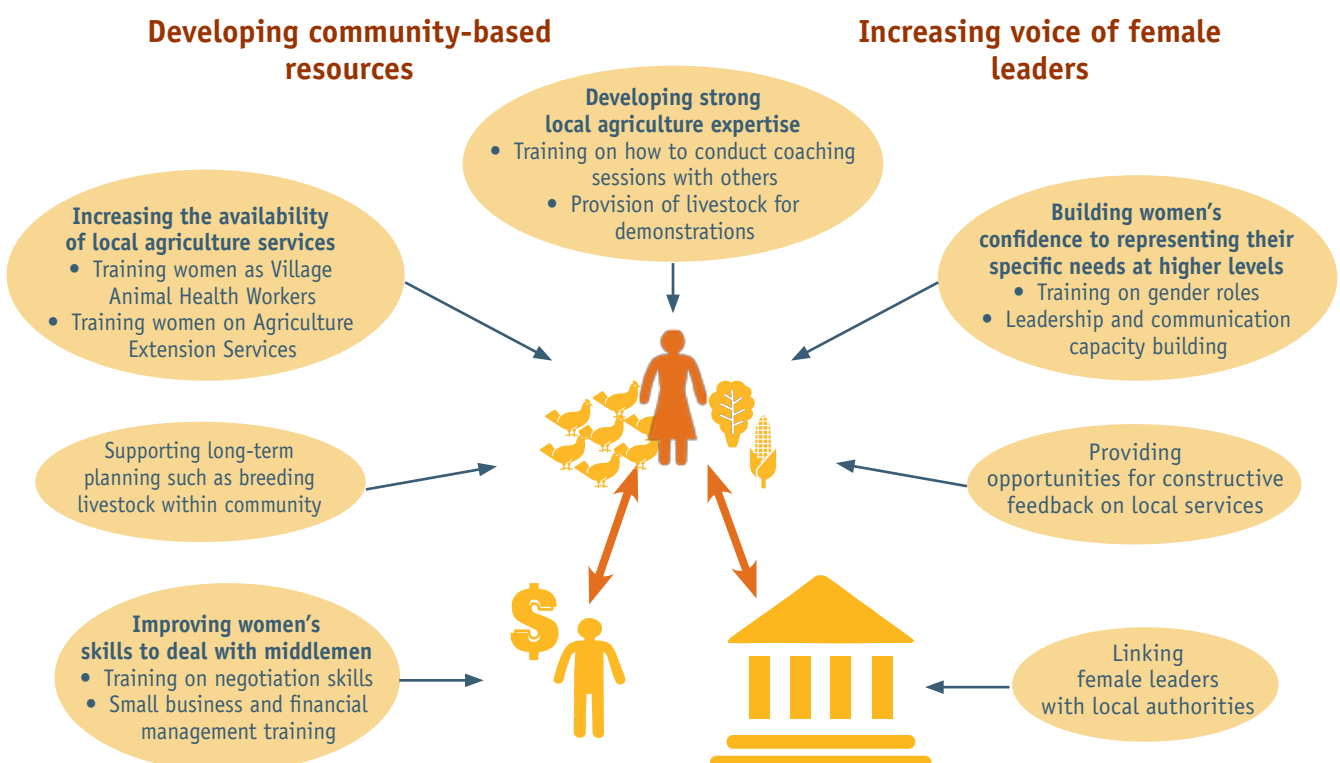
CARE has been working in agriculture in Cambodia for over 15 years and has developed an effective model for engaging women so they can get maximum benefit from their farming efforts.

The women who could benefit most from training often overlooked in participant selection. Where they are invited, traditional agriculture training can often be long and technical with limited follow up. This prevents community members who have lower levels of education from getting as much benefit from this as they might.

HOW DOES CARE ENGAGE WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE?



HOW DOES CARE CREATE STRONG, FEMALE-LED AGRICULTURE SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY?



KEY FACTS

- CARE has trained over **150 demonstration farmers** and all have become village extension workers.
- Over **750 women** are members of farmer interest groups in Koh Kong province.
- CARE trained Cambodia's **first all-female class** of Village Animal Health Workers.
- Demonstration farmers are able to **support others** with effective ways to raise chickens, grow vegetables, graft fruit trees, raise pigs, and control livestock through breeding.
- Over 80 female farmers have attended meetings with commune or district authorities to ask for **improved government services**.



IMPACTS

- **Increased household income:** Women are often already conducting small scale livestock activities so gain **maximum benefit** from additional support. All training participants saw significant **income increases**. 55% earned more than the garment factory minimum wage of \$140 per month from agriculture livelihood activities.
- **Community-based skills:** It is often men who migrate for work, so training women increases the likelihood of improved **skills remaining within the community** and benefitting more people.
- **Community-based services:** Women have set up local businesses providing **veterinary services** and **breeding livestock** within the community.
- **Improved support:** Women are better able to **voice their needs** so local authorities better understand **how to support agriculture** in their communities.
- **Improved negotiating power:** **Better networks** and **collective bargaining** means women are making **more money** from their home farming activities.

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES

Cambodia

- **Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Strategy in Agriculture (2016-20):** Promoting women's economic empowerment in agriculture, and equal participation and representation as decision makers in agriculture-related administration is an important strategy of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.
- **National Strategic Development Plan (2014-2018):** This prioritises promoting the role of women in the economy through strengthening skills training.
- **Strategic Plan for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women:** CARE's work with local female leaders contributes to the Ministry of Women's Affairs priorities on economic positions of women and greater community awareness of gender roles.

CARE

- **CARE International 2020 strategy:** By 2020, CARE aims to support 30 million women to have greater access to and control over their economic resources and to support 50 million poor and vulnerable people to increase their food and nutrition security and resilience to climate change.



CARE's work to develop female leaders in agriculture in Cambodia is supported by the Australian Government.

